

LIST OF CMCC EXCEL GRADUSTES

Cooper, Shirley	Deacon	
Hendrix, Kay	Deacon	
McCloskey, Cal	Deacon	
Rhodes, Lisa		Inactive

Alford, Pamela		
Allison, Marcus	Newsletter	
Brown, Mark	DIT	
Cardwell, Robin	Evangelism	
Hamm, Gary	Choir	
Hankins, Katherine		Inactive
Lowe, Susan	Communion Server	
Prince, Gloria		

Adams, Greg	Board	
Belue, Sally	Board	
Betts, Michael	Choir	
Botero-Velez, Mauricio	Choir	
Bower, Mary	Acolyte	
Cowley, Carol		
Crook, Lisa	Ex-Board	
Foster, Randall	Choir	
Foust, John	DIT, Altar Guild, Newsletter	
Lovelady, Elaine	Usher/Greeter	
Lovelady, Vickie	Greeter/Children's Church/DIT	
Merrell, Eddie	DIT, singer	
Moore, Mark	Newsletter/Service	
Raines, Michael	OOT	
Schoettlin, Peg	SS, Children's Moment, Youth	
Cissy Sorenson		
Tinney, Cliff	Deacon	
Underhill, Nancy	Not member	
Walker, Susan	Minister of Music	



September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Greg Adams participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

As people returned home, we encouraged them to contact their local pastor and explore with their church leader how they could be more involved in their local church community.

We hope that you will find this new willingness a positive resource for your church community. If you have not yet participated in an EXCEL, we hope you will soon attend an EXCEL and experience for yourself the exercises, teachings, and program of EXCEL.

If you have questions concerning the program, please do not hesitate to ask. EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra, the Gulf-Lower Atlantic District, encourages ways for all people to work together and seek community through Christ.

In Christ's service,

Kay Hendrix
EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra
Weekend Director
5983 Amber Hills Road
Birmingham, AL 35210
(205) 956-6418

Trudie Barreras
Executive Director
EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra
989 Drewry Street
Atlanta, GA 30306



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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Sally Belue participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Michael Betts participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Mauricio Botero participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Mary Bowers participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Carol Cowley participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Lisa Crook participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Randall Foster participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 John Foust participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Elaine Lovelady participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Vickie Lovelady participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Eddie Merrell participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Mark B. Moore participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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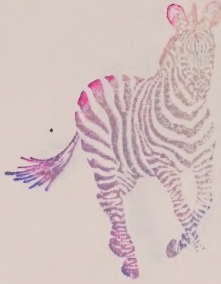
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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Michael Raines participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Peg Schoettlin participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Cissy Sorensen participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Cliff Tinney participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Nancy Underhill participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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September 21, 1994

Dear Pastor:

During the weekend of August 27-29 Susan Walker participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that weekend, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer, study, and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

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**"NOT OVER THE RAINBOW
BUT THROUGH IT!!!"**



What is an EXCEL Weekend?

It is a Christian sharing experience taking place in a community setting.

Who can participate?

Anyone.

When will the next weekend presented by GLAD's Rainbow Zebra Team be held?

August 26-28, 1994

What do I need to do to participate?

Fill out the attached form and mail with a \$25 deposit made payable to EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra.

Further Information:

EXCEL international is a lay-run renewal program sponsored by UFMCC. The weekend experiences are open to any interested participant. Clergy and laity are all welcome. It is anticipated that the weekend location will again be in Northern Alabama. In case we are successful in securing our previous site again, the cost is planned to be \$65 per participant. There will be some scholarship assistance available.

The weekend goes from Friday evening until Sunday at about 3 p.m. Participants must be able to be present for the entire time. Applicants will be notified of acceptance and sent more detailed packets of information. Registration will be limited to thirty participants, and will be on a first-come, first-served basis of all applications received by mail with deposit included following May 15, 1994.

ACCESSIBILITY at this site is somewhat limited, but possible with help. The camp is beautiful and old, having been built many years ago. If you have further questions concerning accessibility, please include them in your application or send additional inquiries to the address listed on the reverse side.

Please fill out and return the application on the reverse side along with your deposit to secure your place for the exciting **SECOND** retreat offered by EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra!



APPLICATION for EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend

Yes, I would like to participate in the EXCEL weekend scheduled August 26-28, 1994 for GLAD.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: HOME _____ WORK _____

_____ Enclosed, \$25.00 deposit refundable until July 1, 1994

_____ Enclosed, \$65.00 payment in full for the EXCEL weekend (refundable until July 1, 1994).

_____ I will need a scholarship if I am to be able to attend. Enclosed is a \$10.00 - \$25.00 deposit to reserve my place.

_____ I have special needs (food, accessibility, etc.) Listed below:

_____ I have been to an EXCEL weekend before and would like to return as a FRIEND. Please indicate which EXCEL weekend you attend and your current local church membership and Pastor. (Friends need to pay their own weekend expenses; please enclose deposit or payment in full).

Please make checks payable to EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra and send this registration form and your deposit or payment in full to:

EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra
989 Drewry St. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306



April 22, 1994

Dear Pastor,

Early in April Pamela Alford, Marcus Allison, Mark Brown, Gary Hamm, Katherine Hankins, Susan Lowe, and Gloria Prince participated in a lay empowerment week-end program of UFMCC, EXCEL. In that week-end, people learned to enhance their spiritual walk through prayer study and action. Additionally, each person had time to reflect on how they wanted to be more committed to the Christian ideal.

As people returned home we encouraged them to contact their local pastor and explore with their church leader, how they could be more involved in their local church community.

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In Christ's Service,

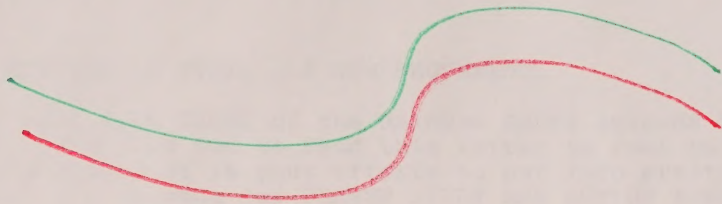
Julie Two Suess-Pierce

Julie Two Suess-Pierce
EXCEL of the RAINBOW ZEBRA
Weekend Director
Weekend one, April 8,9,10
2709 Evergreen St
Huntsville, AL 35801
(205) 533-0539

Trudie Barreras

Trudie Barreras
Executive Director
EXCEL of the RAINBOW ZEBRA
989 Drewry Street
Atlanta, GA 30306

NOTE



NEXT EXCEL:

AUG. 26-27-28

APPLICATION TO COPY + DISTRIBUTE
ENCLOSED —

April 10, 1994

NOW THAT THE WEEKEND IS OVER....A NEW BEGINNING.

The care that came from EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra extends beyond this weekend. We'd like you to read this letter to feel our encouragement and support in your efforts to put into practice the commitments you've made for PRAYER STUDY AND ACTION AMEN!

We'd like to let you know that after a strenuous retreat, you may experience many feelings that vary from fatigue to elation. We encourage you to rest easily with those feelings, as they are very natural. We encourage you to make an appointment with your local Pastor to discuss this weekend experience and to seek guidance as you explore ways to follow through with your new commitments. We will hold you in prayer as you search out friends with whom you can share your challenge, your growth toward your ideal, and your daily walk with God.

There will be a lunch meeting, Reunion of Friends at the GLAD District conference in Kingsport, April 29,30, May 1 for those of you who can attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

May your awareness of the God of compassion, mercy and justice grow.

Remember you are loved and we have been privileged to have you with us for this short time.

You are held in our prayers.

In Christ's service,

*Keith - Dearest Sister Marge -
How wonderful it was to
share so closely with you
this weekend - after such a
long separation -
but really, it felt
like we just took up where*



we left off when we saw
each other last. I praise God
that we will be together through
eternity. But in the meantime,
if you ever get the opportunity,
Ralph and I would love to show
you some Russian River hospitality -
come visit. Thanks for your
valuable contributions to our
little table family - valuable!

I love you! Keith, Po Box 2370
Guerneville CA 95446-2370
707-632-5211



Room reservations need to be made by 4/6/94; see below.
Gulf Lower Atlantic District Conference, 4/29-30--5/1/94
Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday morning, Tri-Cities, TN
TO OBTAIN A ROOM, Make hotel reservations AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
Reserve hotel rooms as a member of Metropolitan Community Church

Theme: Through It All, Listen to the Voice of the Rainbow
GUEST SPEAKERS: Rev. Elder Don Eastman,
Rev. Delores Berry.

1) Hotel info: room rate: \$56.00 + tax per night (up to four persons per room) if reserved as a member of Metropolitan Community Church. Room reservations need to be made by Wednesday, March 30, 1994. Central Reservation: 800-228-2828; Ramada Inn, 2005 LaMasa Dr., Kingsport, TN 37660. Local phone: 615-245-0271. Pets OK; handicap accessible; access to fitness facilities with coupon and \$5.00 fee; free parking for hotel registered guests.

2) Early Conference registration fee: \$35.00 received on or before April 15, 1994. Late registration fee: \$40.00. The fee includes breakfast Saturday morning (4/30/94) Early conference registrants will be pre-registered and acknowledged by mail.

Please cut along dotted line.

Conference Registration form

Please Print

Last Name: _____ Title: Ms/Mr/Pastor/Rev/Dr _____

First Name (to appear on your name tag) _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____, Zip: _____

Church Affiliation: _____

Indicate (Member, Pastor, Pastoral Leader, Lay Delegate, Student Clergy, _____ Committee, Visitor etc.): _____

Name (s), Title (s) and Church Affiliation (s) of any other person (s) to be included in this reservation:

Please describe any particular needs > _____
If appropriate, also inform hotel _____

Amount of Fee enclosed \$ _____ over
(\$40.00 if a late fee). Checks should be made out to GLAD and enclosed with this registration form. Mail to Dennis Luft, District Treasurer, P. O. Box 101473, Birmingham, AL 35210.

DATE

Dear EXCEL of the RAINBOW ZEBRA TEAM...

YES! I've prayed about this, studied about it and now I'm acting.

I am interested in joining the EXCEL team ministry.

____ Please send me information.

____ Who can I call to talk?

Thanks.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

HOME CHURCH _____

EXCEL EXPERIENCE _____

Send to: Trudie Barreras
989 Drewry Street
Atlanta, GA 30306

GO NOW IN PEACE

Go now in peace, Go now together, be sure once again, My love has no end,
And you are its beginning. --- Go now in peace, Go now together, Create a
space and cradle a place, where we all can come together. Go now alone not
lonley, Go now alive, not just living. Go as yourself and rely on my help
'Til yourself is yourself for the giving. --- Go now in peace, Go now together.
Be sure once again, My love has no end, And YOU are its beginning.

Go now in peace

Weekend # 1

Team and Friends

EXCEL QUARTERLY REPORT

TEAM NAME: Excel of the Rainbow Zebra

Quarter: 4th

10/1/93 through 12/31/93

Year: 1993

Prepared by: Janet E. Sness-Pierce

(Treasurer)

BALANCE FORWARD (Operating funds) 1256.48

INCOME:

WEEKEND FEES 150.00

SCHOLARSHIPS _____

OFFERINGS _____

DONATIONS _____

INTEREST _____

PROMOTIONS 86.00

MISCELLANEOUS <list type/brief description>

TOTAL INCOME: (For this Quarter) 236.00

EXPENSES:

WEEKEND FEES

SITE 150.00

FOOD

MISCELLANEOUS~(assessment) material for stoles 37.23

INSURANCE

PRINTING 38.16

SUPPLIES

POSTAGE

BANK CHARGES

TRAVEL

TELEPHONE

NSF CHECKS

EXCEL INTERNATIONAL TITHE & ASSESSMENT (Last Qtr) 162.54

NEW WORKS

PROMOTIONS 77.90

MISCELLANEOUS: Team preparation retreat costs 50.00

TOTAL EXPENSES (For this Quarter) 520.83

INCOME LESS EXPENSES = -284.83

TITHE (INCOME LESS EXPENSE) * .10

ASSESSMENT -0-

TOTAL TO EXCEL INTERNATIONAL 25.00

ENDING BALANCE (Operating funds) (after assessment) 946.65

Respectfully
Submitted

1/7/94

[Signature]

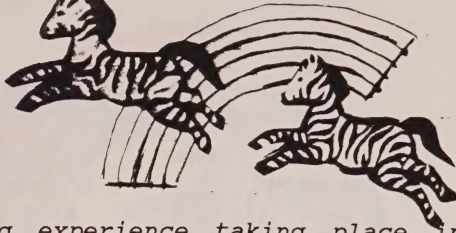
SUMMARY REPORT
10/ 1/93 Through 12/31/93

Page 1

EXCEL-Excel
1/ 7/94

Category Description	10/ 1/93- 12/31/93
INCOME/EXPENSE	
INCOME	
<i>Beginning balance</i>	1256.48
Fundraiser:	
decals	86.00
Total Fundraiser	86.00
Registrations:	
1994	150.00
Total Registrations	150.00
TOTAL INCOME	236.00
EXPENSES	
Advertising:	
district conference	38.16
Total Advertising	38.16
Assessment	25.00
Fundraising:	
decals	77.90
Total Fundraising	77.90
Retreat:	
food	50.00
Total Retreat	50.00
Tithe	142.54
Weekend:	
camp site	150.00
stoles	37.23
Total Weekend	187.23
TOTAL EXPENSES	520.83
TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE	-284.83
ENDING BALANCE	971.65

**"NOT OVER THE RAINBOW
BUT THROUGH IT!!!"**



What is an EXCEL Weekend?

It is a Christian sharing experience taking place in a community setting.

Who can participate?

Anyone.

When will the first weekend presented by GLAD's Rainbow Zebra Team be held?

April 8-10, 1994

What do I need to do to participate?

Fill out the attached form and mail with a \$25 deposit made payable to EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra. Mail to:

*989 Drewry St. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306*

Further Information:

EXCEL international is a lay-run renewal program sponsored by UFMCC. The weekend experiences are open to any interested participant. Clergy and laity are all welcome. The exact weekend location and cost have not been finalized, but we are seeking conference campground facilities throughout GLAD which will meet our needs for availability and accessibility. We anticipate a total weekend cost of less than \$100. There will be some scholarship assistance available. The weekend goes from Friday evening until Sunday at about 3 p.m. Participants must be able to be present for the entire time. Applicants will be notified of acceptance and sent more detailed packets of information. Registration will be limited to twenty-five participants, and will be on a first-come, first-served basis of all applications received by mail with deposit included following November 15, 1993.

APPLICATION FORM

Yes, I would like to participate in the EXCEL weekend scheduled April 8-10, 1994 for GLAD.

NAME _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

_____ Enclosed \$25.00 deposit refundable until March 1, 1994

_____ I will need a scholarship if I am to be able to attend.



EXCEL OF THE RAINBOW ZEBRA

989 Drewry Street NE

Atlanta, GA 30306

November 21, 1993

Dear Marge,

Thank you again for the marvellous uplift and challenge you gave all of us with your Homecoming Sermon this morning. If we had been in any doubt (we weren't!) that you were the person we wanted for our Spiritual Advisor for the EXCEL weekend on April 8-10, 1994, your sincerity and wisdom so vividly shared with us this morning would have dispelled it.

As mentioned briefly in conversation at the "dinner on the grounds", the EXCEL team is in full consensus that we would like to have you serve in this capacity for our weekend. The Spiritual Advisor (or Director - the vocabulary seems to vary a bit) is first and foremost in charge of the spiritual growth and bonding of each individual on the team, as well as being the facilitator for the spiritual tone of the entire group during the weekend. Specific responsibilities include to:

a) mediate differences of opinion among team members diplomatically.

b) act as advisor to team members in spiritual matters whenever necessary.

c) coordinate with the director (that's me) and weekend coordinator (Julie Suess-Pierce) on weekend table assignments.

d) be available throughout the weekend to counsel, advise, and provide necessary spiritual backup in any situation.

The team voted unanimously to underwrite the expense of your participation in the weekend. We do not know yet where it will be held, although we are trying for campground sites in the northern half of the District.

We are planning on our next training meeting in Birmingham on Saturday, December 11th. After the first of the year, we believe we will need to meet more frequently than once a month (as we have been since we began our training). We are also planning to have another team retreat/run-through of the entire weekend program before we actually present our weekend. We would like to have you participate in whatever part of our training exercises it is possible for you to fit into your schedule. If you could be present for part or all of our December 11th meeting, at that time we could plan further the ways in which your input could be most effectively utilized.

Again, much love and thanks for your wonderful spiritual presence.

Shalom,

Julie

EXCEL Report to GLAD Delegates

HALLELUJAH!! The Rainbow Zebra Team of EXCEL is now trotting merrily along! Our first GLAD weekend, held April 8-10 at Camp McDowell in Northern Alabama, was a resounding success. The weekend was attended by nineteen enthusiastic participants from around the district. Cities represented were Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery and Huntsville, AL; Atlanta, Smyrna and Douglasville, GA; Goose Creek, SC; and Johnson City, TN.

The Weekend was also attended by Keith Apple, Executive Director of EXCEL International. Keith was there to evaluate the Rainbow Zebra Team and determine whether we met the guidelines of the program satisfactorily to deserve to be certified as an EXCEL team qualified to present further weekend retreats. However, he also contributed greatly to the actual conducting of the weekend activities, and added his own special spiritual glow to what was truly an experience of Christian Community Living for team and participants alike. Keith has assured us that he will be recommending our team for full status at the next Executive Board meeting of the EXCEL program.

The Rainbow Zebra Team has been in training for two years. We were perhaps a bit slower than some others to get ready for our first weekend because whereas many other teams are located in a single city or even a single MCC church, our team has been genuinely a District endeavor. The team was drawn from the participants in the first "Suitcase" weekend provided by EXCEL International, which took place in Jackson, GA in March of 1992. Because three members of the team were from Atlanta, three from Birmingham and two from Huntsville, we agreed to hold our training meetings all day one Saturday a month in Birmingham, the most central to our three locales. The commute was gruelling, but Praise God we all survived, and at long last a cohesive, enthusiastic and well-prepared team evolved.

We are looking forward to a bright future developing the EXCEL program in GLAD. We realize there are many challenges which we and the Holy Spirit will have to overcome in the future. For the first weekend, we were welcomed warmly and very inexpensively by Camp McDowell, an Episcopalian retreat camp near Jasper, AL. They have had a great deal of experience with similar weekends, and were completely accepting of our MCC affiliation. A number of other conference sites we contacted during our initial inquiries were unable to cope with this aspect.

It is our present hope and intention to plan an additional weekend at Camp McDowell in late August, which will enable us to build on the good relationship which we have already developed there and to take advantage of the strong support which has been generated in the Birmingham church. However, we are very anxious to expand our outreach to other parts of the District. We would strongly urge that any delegates or pastors who have knowledge of

available campsites or other possible locations which would be suitable for a weekend should contact us with appropriate information. Below is a list of some of the things we would need to know about any proposed location:

1. **Affordability.** We are able to offer the weekend at Camp McDowell for \$65.00 because of their extremely reasonable price, which includes all meals (the kitchen staff is wonderful there), and we could not possibly work out the catering ourselves for anything like the price!

2. **Accessibility.** Although not ideal, Camp McDowell is sensitive to the needs of physically challenged individuals and has made a serious effort to assure access for those who are wheelchair bound.

3. **Seclusion and Community.** The nature of the EXCEL weekend requires that we have a community setting which will not be disturbed by people involved in other activities at the same site. Again, Camp McDowell understood this need and guaranteed it for us.

4. **Acceptance of the MCC Context.** We do not want to expose the EXCEL participants to any possibility of circumstances which might cause disruption of our primary goal of developing a sense of loving community during this weekend.

We are aware, of course, that people from throughout our geographically dispersed District are often unable to make the long drives to far-off spots. It would be nice, therefore, if a fairly large concentration of interested individuals existed in a particular location to have a weekend planned to make it possible for that group to attend. Churches who might have such groups interested in making an EXCEL retreat could do the necessary groundwork in locating a site and making reservations, a process which in itself often requires advance notice of six months to a year. Many of the camps we contacted to arrange our initial weekend informed us that they had booked their sites for 1994 during early 1993. If you **do** have any interest in undertaking such planning for your area, please contact:

Trudie Barreras
Team Coordinator
EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra
989 Drewry St. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
Phone: (404) 892-7219



EXCEL

International

SHARING WITH FRIENDS

"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them."

To keep my life in union with God conscious and growing, I will meet with spiritual friends to share.

- (1) Join in prayer together with friends.
- (2) Review my commitments.
- (3) Share my insight from reading and study with recommendations to others.
- (4) Share the moment during the past week I felt closest to God.
- (5) Share the efforts I have made during the past week, some with success and some with failure to:
 - ..Make a friend, Become a friend, Introduce my friend to Christ.
 - ..Bring some person closer to God.
 - ..Bring some person to know God.
 - ..Bring some person to know God better through the church.
 - ..Bring some person to know God better through the Exercise.
- (6) Share with others activities I am engaged in.
- (7) Pray with others for those not present.
- (8) Join in prayer of thanksgiving and petition for each other's needs and concerns.

THE RAINBOW ZEBRA

Once in a jungle far away,
A herd of zebras spent each day.
They grazed on grasses in the sun,
They pranced and played and had great fun
They all wore stripes of black and white
(Which to the zebras seemed just right.)
"Black and white's the way to be,"
They all agreed contentedly.
They were quite happy with their lot,
Except for one. His stripes were not
Black and white but a brighter hue...
Yellow, green and red and blue.
This little zebra said with a sigh,
"I want to be like you...oh why
Can't I be black and white too,
Not yellow, red and green and blue?"

He tried to scrub his stripes away!
He tried to cover them with clay!
He tried to fade them in the sun!

But nothing worked. No way. Not one.
So finally one dismal day,
He waved, "Farewell!" and went away.
He told the herd, "I must go see
If somewhere there's someone like me."

He walked until he came by chance
Upon a place called **JUNGLE RANCH**.
"Here," he said, "I hope maybe
To find someone who looks like me."
He met a leopard wearing lots
Of splendid orange polka dots.
A silly green gazelle was there
And a sleepy lion with red hair.
He met all sorts of jungle creatures
With bright colors and pleasant features.
"You're nice," he said, "as nice as can be.
But none of you are striped like me."

And so he walked for hours and hours
Until he came to the **LAND OF FLOWERS**.
Their smiling faces were green and blue
And red and pink and yellow too.
"But none of you are striped like me,"
The zebra sighed unhappily.
And now quite tired, he lay his head
Upon the fragrant flower bed.

He woke again to thunder and lightning
And rain so heavy it was frightening
A dreadful storm had come to pass.

It shook the trees. It shook the grass.
And when at last the storm passed by,
A rainbow arched across the sky.
The zebra smiled with great delight
At seeing such a wondrous sight.
"A rainbow's beautiful to see.
And it is striped...**JUST LIKE ME.**"
So from that day he took great pride
In his own multi-colored hide.
Back to the herd he brought a glow...
The beauty of **HIS OWN RAINBOW.**

STONEMALL DEMOCRATIC CLUB
P.O. BOX 39495
LOS ANGELES, CA. 90039



Have
you
had
your
HUG
today?







I'M
AVAILABLE!

ILD by RJB



For you....



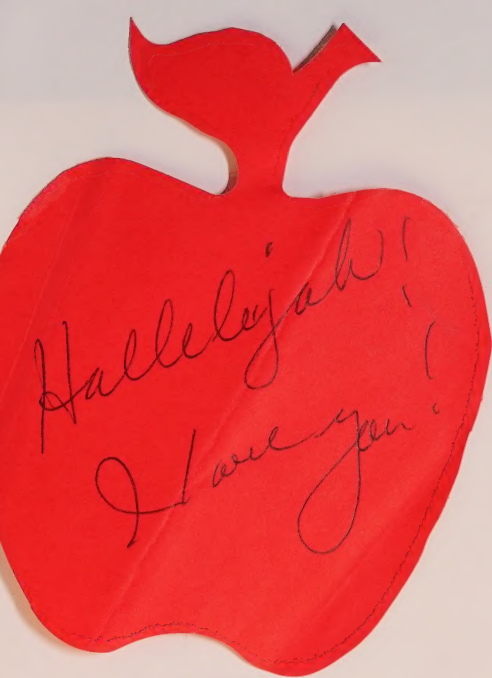
*a thousand
HUGS!*

ILD by RJB



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IMAKNo. 1> 25 054 0142 N-1 N+3 2



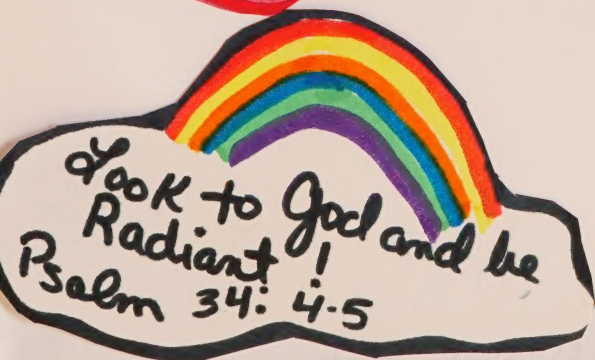
Hallelujah!
I love you!



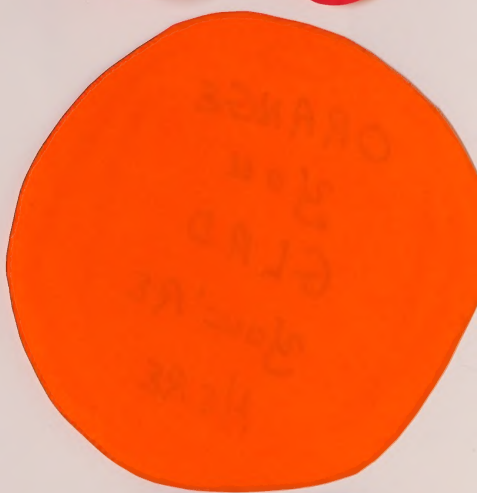
ORANGE
you
GLAD
you'RE
HERE



you are
the
Apple of
God's eye!



Look to God and be
Radiant!
Psalm 34: 4-5

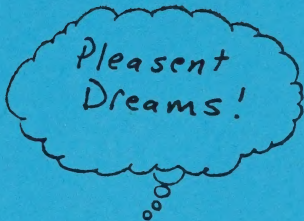


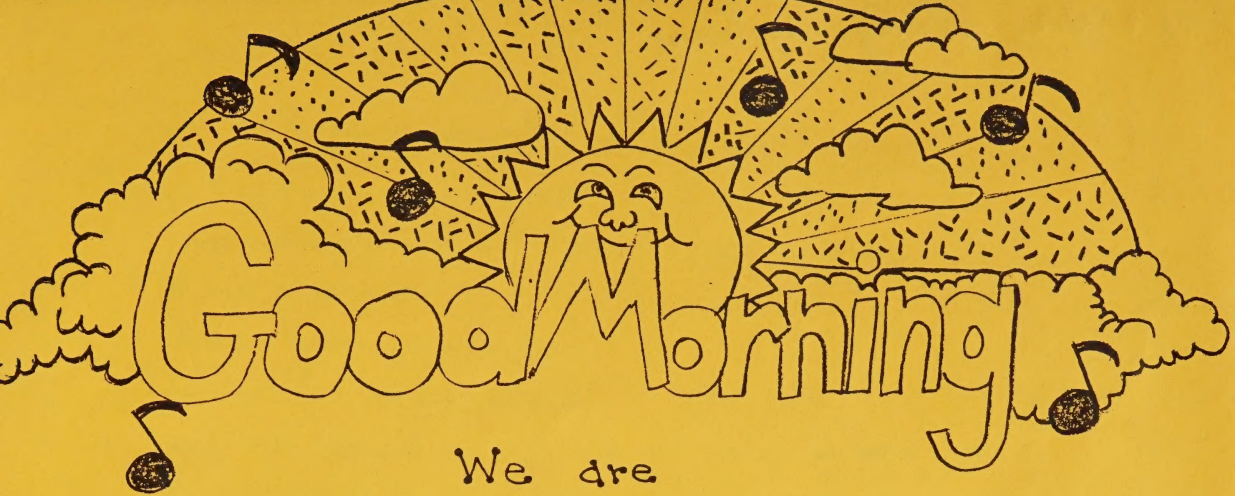
Estimated Time in Minutes	Clock Time	Event	Person Responsible
		FRIDAY	
60	02:00 PM	Arrive at camp	Team
30	03:00 PM	Set up cabins/ Put out signs/ etc	Team
30	03:30 PM	Set up Friends Space/ Mtg Area	Team & Camp
30	04:00 PM	Team Prayer	
30	04:30 PM	Team Meal	
60	05:00 PM	Team Prepare cabin	
90	06:00 PM	Participants arrive	
5	07:30 PM	Called people together	
15	07:35 PM	Opening remarks & Introductions/Worry Song	Kay
15	07:50 PM	Ice Breaker	
		Ray Wilson to Chapel to Pray	
✓ 10	08:05 PM	IDEAL talk / Kay to introduce	Ray Wilson
10	08:15 PM	Writing on Ideal	J.R.
10	08:25 PM	Skit: Delbert & Samantha/ w Commercial (J.R.)	Kay & Cal/ Intro by JR
10	08:35 PM	Break	
3	08:45 PM	J.R. to explain Silence	
		Shirley to chapel to pray	
✓ 30	08:48 PM	GRACE talk	Shirley Intro by J.R.
5	09:18 PM	Sing Amazing Grace	
15	09:23 PM	Names on Folders/ Go to Chapel	
30	09:38 PM	Chapel service	Shirley to read story
10	10:08 PM	Silence/Participants to Bed	
60	10:18 PM	Team meeting then Silence	
	11:18 PM	Team retires in Silence	
	11:18 PM		

Estimated Time in Minutes	Clock Time	Event	Person Responsible
		SATURDAY	
30	06:00 AM	Team Arises	
30	06:30 AM	Awaken Participants	Friends
15	07:00 AM	Team Prayer	J.R. & Marge
30	07:15 AM	Morning Prayer Service in Chapel	J.R.
30	07:45 AM	Breakfast	
10	08:15 AM	Break	
50	08:25 AM	Group Assignments/ Get Acquainted	Kay
		Cal to chapel to pray	
12	09:15 AM	COMMITMENT / Intro by Shirley	Cal
20	09:27 AM	Group discussion @ tables	
10	09:47 AM	Break & song; Higher Ground p51	
5	09:57 AM	Instruction for Masks	
20	10:02 AM	Make individual masks	
15	10:22 AM	Discuss masks with table	
		J.R. to chapel to pray	
20	10:37 AM	PRAYER talk / Intro by Cal	J.R.
20	10:57 AM	Group discussion	
25	11:17 AM	Bunny w/ Cal; Reflection & Free time	
10	11:42 AM	Gather in Mtg Rm & song; Arky, Arky	
45	11:52 AM	Lunch	
		Ray B. to chapel to pray	
13	12:37 PM	STUDY / Intro by J.R.	Ray B.
25	12:50 PM	Discussion	
30	01:15 PM	Group Pictures	

Estimated Time in Minutes	Clock Time	Event	Person Responsible
15	01:45 PM	Break to change	
30	02:00 PM	Swim Time	
10	02:30 PM	Break to change	
		Kay to chapel to pray	
15	02:40 PM	ACTION / Intro by Ray B.	Kay
25	02:55 PM	Group discussion	
45	03:20 PM	Posters	
45	04:05 PM	Planning of skits	
10	04:50 PM	History of De Colores by Ray; Song: De Colores / Bunny w/ J.R.	
60	05:00 PM	Free time &/or Completion of skits/ Swim time	
45	06:00 PM	Dinner	
105	06:45 PM	Skits & Poster Presentation	
120	08:30 PM	Evening Worship in Chapel; Communion; Chapel Call	
15	10:30 PM	Social time	
0	10:45 PM	Team Meeting	
0	10:45 PM	All Retire	
	10:45 PM		

Estimated Time in Minutes	Clock Time	Event	Person Responsible
		SUNDAY	
15	05:45 AM	Friends Arise	
30	06:00 AM	Team Arise	
60	06:30 AM	Serenade Participants w/ Juice & Flowers	
30	07:30 AM	Morning Prayer Service in Chapel	
30	08:00 AM	Breakfast	
		J.R. to chapel to pray	
25	08:30 AM	MINISTRIES / Intro by Kay	J.R.
25	08:55 AM	Discussion	
15	09:20 AM	Break	
		Trudie to Chapel to pray	
16	09:35 AM	SECURITY / intro by J.R.	Trudie
30	09:51 AM	Sharing of Friends by Table	
		Julie to chapel to pray	
6	10:21 AM	YOU / intro by Trudie	Julie
90	10:27 AM	Nature walk: Prepare Commitment Cards/ Prepare Team Letters	
5	11:57 AM	Song: Standing in the Need of Prayer	
40	12:02 PM	LUNCH/ Sit by Table Groups	
80	12:42 PM	Sunday Worship Service w/ Communion by Family	
20	02:02 PM	Closing Service w/ stoles & comm. cards	
50	02:22 PM	Testimony by Graduates/ Participants	
10	03:12 PM	Closing Remarks/ Handout Evaluations	Kay
30	03:22 PM	Clean Up; Pack Up; Participants Leave	
45	03:52 PM	Check Grounds	
30	04:37 PM	Final Team Prayer; Team Leaves	





We are
G.L.A.D.
to be
God's
Walking Rainbows

A rainbow is not just a symphony of colors sent to calm the storm in our souls; it is a talk with God, a mysterious, miraculous conversation with God, heart to heart, the very heart of God saying to our hearts:

"I remember I am your God. Be my walking rainbows, so that the whole world will know to whom you belong, for I am the God who keeps promises, and I have not forgotten our covenant."

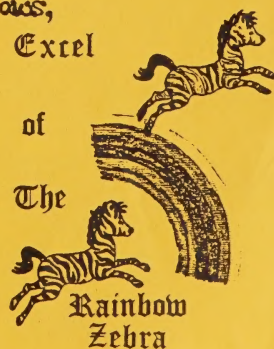
This is the hope of the church: that God keeps promises.

The mission of the church is to walk among the suffering and give, for we are covenant keepers, walking rainbows, bringing the hope of the good news to the poor.

Excerpt

of

The



Rainbow
Zebra

prayer, study, action

The ABC's of a Positive Outlook

To Achieve Your Dreams, Remember Your ABC's:

Avoid negative sources, people places, things, and habits.

Believe in yourself.

Consider things from every angle.

Don't give up, and don't give in.

Enjoy life today; yesterday is gone, and tomorrow may never come.

Family & friends are hidden treasures; seek them and enjoy their riches.

Give more than you planned to give.

Hang on to your dreams.

Ignore those who try to discourage you.

Just do it!

Keep on trying. No matter how hard it seems, it will get easier.

Love yourself first and most.

Make it happen.

Never lie, cheat or steal. Always strike a fair deal.

Open your eyes, and see things as they really are.

Practice makes perfect.

Quitters never win, and winners never quit.

Read, study and learn about everything important in your life.

Stop procrastinating.

Take control of your own destiny.

Understand yourself in order to better understand others.

Visualize it.

Want it more than anything.

Xcellerate your efforts.

You are unique in all of God's creations. Nothing can replace you.

Zero in on your target, and go for it!



Touch Me with Truth that Burns Like Fire

Lord,
send the gift of your Spirit
to fill this place
and myself
and the world.

Touch me
with truth
that burns like fire,
with beauty
that moves me like the wind;

and set me free, Lord,
free to try new ways of living;
free to forgive myself and others;
free to love and laugh and sing;
free to lay aside my burden of security;
free to join the battle for justice and peace;
free to see and listen and wonder again
at the gracious mystery of things and persons;

free to be,
to give,
to receive,
to rejoice as a child of your Spirit.

And, Lord,
teach me how to dance,
to turn around
and come down where I want to be,
in the arms and heart of your people
and in you,
that I may praise and enjoy you forever.

But those who wait
for the Lord, shall
renew their strength,
they shall mount up
with wings like
eagles, they shall
run and not be
weary, they shall
walk and not faint.

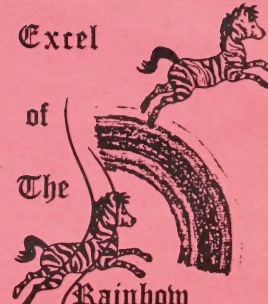
Isaiah 40:31

Excel

of

The

Rainbow
Zebra





EXCEL OF THE RAINBOW ZEBRA

EXCEL Exercise Weekend Worship Book

"And I will show you a more EXCELlent way."
I Corinthians 12:31

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Saturday Evening Worship Service	7
Sunday Morning Worship Service	11
Sunday Afternoon Worship Service	14
Songs of Praise and Worship	Attachment
Index of Songs by Titles	I

FRIDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

SINGSPIRATION

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Hear, Oh Israel, YAHWEH is God, YAHWEH is One.

Many: **AND YOU SHALL LOVE YAHWEH, YOUR GOD, WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.**

One: Amen. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Many: **AMEN. IF WE DO THIS, WE WILL LIVE.**

HYMN: "REVIVE US AGAIN"

We praise Thee, O God, for the sign of Thy Love,
For Jesus who died is now gone above.

REFRAIN

Hallelujah! Thine the glory, Hallelujah! Amen;
Hallelujah! Thine the glory; Revive us Again.

We praise Thee, O God, for Thy Spirit of life,
Who has shown us our freedom and scattered our strife. REFRAIN

Revive us again, fill each heart with Thy love;
May each soul be rekindled with fire from above. REFRAIN

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Oh God, help us to center down and worship You. Quiet our restlessness and still our noisy desires. Turn us toward Your deep wells and away from our own shallow waters. Center us down in Your love. Help us let go of ourselves, and allow You to hold us tightly.

PRAYER: *(Adapted from Guerrillas of Grace)*

One: O Ingenious God, We rejoice in your creation
and pray that your Spirit touch us so deeply that we will find a sense of self.

Many: **Make us glad to be who we are and yet restless at being anything less than we can become with your help.**

- One: Make us simple enough not be confused by disappointments, clear enough not to mistake busyness for freedom.
- Many: **Honest enough not to expect truth to be painless, brave enough not to sing all our songs in private.**
- All: **Compassionate enough to get in trouble, humble enough to admit trouble and seek help, joyful enough to celebrate all of it.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reader: The first scripture reading this evening comes from the Hebrew Scriptures, Genesis, chapter 9, verses 12 and 13.

And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations; I set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

Reader: The second scripture reading this evening comes from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter 7, verses 7 and 8. Please rise in spirit and listen to Jesus addressing you in the Gospel.

"Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened."

And here ends the reading of the Good News of Jesus Christ. May God add wisdom and understanding to the proclamation of the Gospel.

People: **AMEN.**

HYMN "CHILDREN OF THE RAINBOW PROMISE"

Children of the Rainbow Promise,
With God's blessing sure upon us,
By the spirit's living waters,
Born again; God's sons and daughters.

God's forgiving love unchains us;
in community sustains us
Like a sister, like a brother,
we are part of one another.

Let our promise now be given,
to be salt and to be leaven,
To be agents of God's caring
Through our growing and our sharing.

A STORY "THE RAINBOW ZEBRA"

A SONG "CHILDREN OF THE RAINBOW PROMISE"
Verses 1 & 2

Children of the Rainbow Promise,
With God's blessing sure upon us,
By the spirit's living waters,
Born again; God's sons and daughters.

God's forgiving love unchains us;
in community sustains us
Like a sister, like a brother,
we are part of one another.

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

SILENT MEDITATION

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Inspired by Psalms 149)

One: Praise the Lord! Sing to our God a new Song.

Many: **God's praise is in the assembly of God's people.**

One: Let the daughters and sons of God be glad in God our maker. Let us rejoice this morning in all the beauty of our Creator.

Many: **Let us praise God's name with dancing, making melodies to our God. For our God takes pleasure in us God's people.**

All: **We will praise our God!**

HYMN: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee #37

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Living love; Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive all fear and doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with new life today.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays, Stars and angel sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Adapted from *Guerrillas of Grace*) (In Unison)

Eternal One, Silence from whom my words come;
Questioner from whom my questions arise;
Lover of whom all my loves are hints;
Disturber in whom alone I find my rest;
Mystery in whose depths I find healing and myself.

Enfold me now in your presence; restore to me your peace; renew me through your power; and ground me in your grace.

PSALM PRAYER (Psalms 139, verses 1-2, 13-16)

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

Many: **You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**

One: For you did form my inward parts, you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Many: **I praise thee, for you are fearful and wonderful. Wonderful are your works! You know me very well.**

All: **My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance; in thy book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.**

PRAISE CHORUS (God is so Good)

God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, So good to me.
God loves me so ... (3X) God's so good to me.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Reader: The Scripture reading this morning comes from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter 6, verses 24 through 34. Please rise in spirit and hear Jesus speak to you.

Jesus taught His followers ... "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Parent feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?"

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will God not much more clothe you, Oh you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your Heavenly Parent knows that you need them. But seek first God's Realm and God's Righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

And here ends the reading of the Good News of Jesus Christ. May God add wisdom and understanding to the proclamation of the Gospel.

People: **AMEN.**

HYMN KUM BA YAH, MY LORD

Kum ba yah, my lord, kum ba yah (3X)
Oh, Lord, Kum ba yah.

Someone's praying, Lord ...

Kum ba yah, my lord ...

MORNING PRAYER

DEPARTING SONG (Walk to breakfast singing) Down In My Heart

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart.
Down in my heart, down in my heart.
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart.
Down in my heart to stay.

I've got the peace that passes understanding down in my heart ...
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus down in my heart ...
I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer deep down in the depths of my heart ...

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

SINGSPARATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord Be With You.

Many: **And also With You.**

All: **Let us worship our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all your mind.**

One: Amen. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Many: **AMEN. IF WE DO THIS, WE WILL LIVE.**

HYMN WE HAVE COME INTO THIS HOUSE

We have come into this house, gathered in Your Name to worship You (2X)
We have come into this house, gathered in Your Name to Worship, Christ the Lord,
Worship You, Jesus Christ our Lord.

We will lift up holy hands and magnify Your Name and worship You. (2X)
We will lift up holy hands and magnify Your Name and worship, Christ the Lord.
Worship You, Jesus Christ our Lord.

So let's forget about ourselves and concentrate on You and worship You (2X)
So let's forget about ourselves and concentrate on You and worship Christ the Lord.
Worship you, Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER (Adapted from Guerrillas of Grace)

One: O God, help us to believe in beginnings and in our beginning again.

Many: **Help us to make beginnings by going out of our weary minds into fresh dreams, daring to make our own bold tracks in the your service now.**

One: Help us to begin forgiving that we may experience mercy; to begin questioning the unquestionable that we may know the truth.

Many: **Help us to begin disciplining ourselves that we may create beauty; to begin sacrificing that we may accomplish justice.**

One: Help us to begin risking that we may make peace; to begin loving that we may realize joy.

All: **Help us to believe in beginnings, to make a beginning, to be a beginning, so that we may not just grow old, but grow new each day of this wild, amazing life you call us to live with the passion of Jesus Christ.**

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

OUR GOD, WHOM WE SO QUICKLY AND EASILY CALL GOD OF GODS, FORGIVE US FOR OUR FAILURE TO UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY PLACED UPON US BY YOUR LOVE. WE ENLIST IN YOUR CAUSES, BUT FIND OURSELVES LOSING INTEREST. WE PROMISE TO BE COURAGEOUS, BUT FIND OURSELVES AFRAID. WE WANT TO BE SENSITIVE, BUT FIND OURSELVES HARDENED AND CALLOUSED. WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH GREAT OPPORTUNITIES, BUT FAIL TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEM. FORGIVE US, GOD. TAKE OUR LIMITATIONS AND TURN THEM INTO POSSIBILITIES FOR SERVICE. HAVE MERCY UPON US. HELP US TO GROW. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *Marge*

HYMN

Wonderful Words of Life

Sing them over again to me, Wonderful words of Life;
let me more of their beauty see, Wonderful words of Life.
Words of life and beauty, Teach me faith and duty;

REFRAIN

Beautiful words, wonderful words, Wonderful words of Life, Beautiful words,
wonderful words, Wonderful words of Life.

Christ, the blessed One, gives to all Wonderful words of Life;
We will list to the loving call, Wonderful words of Life.
All so freely given, Wooing us to Heaven; **REFRAIN**

SCRIPTURE READING:

Reader: The Scripture reading this evening comes from the Hebrew Scripture,
Genesis chapter 1, verse 1.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

And here ends the reading of the Holy Word of God. May God add
wisdom and understanding to the proclamation of the Word.

People: **AMEN.**

CHORUS REFRAIN to Wonderful Words of Life

Beautiful Words, Wonderful Words, Wonderful Words of Life,
Beautiful Words, Wonderful Words, wonderful Words of Life.

SERMON

HYMN Take My Life and Let It Be

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, God, to Thee;
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
At the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee;
Take my voice and let it be
Filled with messages from Thee
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy precious home,
It shall be Thy precious home.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION/ ALTAR CALL

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN

The Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning, when the world was begun, and I danced in the Moon and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.

CHORUS

Dance then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance you see,
And I'll lead you all,
Wherever you may be,
I will lead you all in the dance with me.

I danced for the Scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they would not follow me. I danced for the fisherman,
for James and John. They came to me and the dance went on. CHORUS

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame. The holy people said, "It surely was a shame." They whipped me and stripped me and hung me high, and they left me there on the cross to die. CHORUS

I danced on Friday when the sky turned black; It's hard to dance with the world on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on. CHORUS

They cut me down, and I leapt up high, I am the life that'll never, never die. I'll live in you if you live in Me. I am the Lord of dance, you see. CHORUS

BENEDICTION

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

CALL TO WORSHIP This Is The Day (twice)

This is the day, This is the day,
That our God has made, that our God has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
That our God has made.

One: This is the day the Lord has made and we can feel God's presence right now
in this place.

HYMN SURELY THE PRESENCE (Twice)

Surely, the presence, of our God is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,
I see glory on each face.
Surely, the presence, of our God is in this place.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

**OH GOD OF PROMISE, WE WANT TO SAY YES WITH ALL OUR LIVES
AS WELL AS WITH OUR LIPS. YES TO YOU. YES TO CHURCH. YES TO
EACH OTHER. YES TO OURSELVES. OH GOD OF PROMISE, PLEASE
HELP US. WE PLACE OUR LIVES BEFORE YOU, KNOWING THAT IN
YOU ALONE CAN WE FIND JOY AND HOPE. WE BELIEVE IN YOU, BUT
OH WE THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN US, AND CALLING US TO A
FUTURE THAT IS FILLED WITH PROMISE. GOD, WE HEAR YOUR
CALL. GUIDE US AS WE RESPOND TO YOU. HEAR US AS WE
WORSHIP, WORK, AND PLAY THIS DAY. AMEN.**

PSALM PRAYER: Psalms 89 (adapted from *Psalms Now*)

One: I feel like singing this morning, Oh God. I feel like telling everyone
around me how great You are!

Many: **If only others could know the depths of your love and your eternal
concern for those who will follow you! But my songs are so often
off-key. My speech is so inadequate. I simply cannot express what
I feel, what I know to be true about your love for your creatures
upon this world.**

One: But even the songs of the birds proclaim Your praises. The heavens and the earth beneath them, the trees that reach toward You, the flowers that grow in colorful beauty, the green hills and soaring mountains, the valleys and the plains, the lakes and rivers, the great oceans that pound our shores, they proclaim Your greatness, Oh God, and Your love for all people.

Many: **How glorious it is to be alive, Oh God! May every breath of my body, every beat of my heart, be dedicated to your praise and glory.**

Baptism of Edward Lee Merrell

PRAISE CHORUS: JESUS NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES (twice)

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord;
Immanuel, God is with us;
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Reader: The scripture reading this morning comes from the First letter of John, chapter 3, selected verses. Hear the Word of God for you.

How great is the Love God has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know the Christ. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like Christ, for we shall see Christ as Christ is.

This is the message you heard from the beginning. We should love one another.

Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers and sisters. Anyone who does not love remains in death. Anyone who hates their brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in Christ. This is how we know what love is; Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possession and sees their brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in them? Dear Children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

And here ends the reading. May God add wisdom and understanding to the reading of God's word.

All: **AMEN.**

HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

REFRAIN

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, Yes, they'll know
we are Christian by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, We will walk with
each other, we will walk hand in hand, And together we'll spread the news that
God is in our land: (Refrain)

We will work with each other, we will work side by side, We will work with
each other, we will work side by side, And we'll guard each one's dignity and
save each one's pride: (Refrain)

MORNING PRAYER

DEPARTING SONG (walk to breakfast singing) JESUS IN THE MORNING

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning,
Jesus in the noontime,
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down.

Serve God ...

Thank God ...

Praise God ...

SUNDAY AFTERNOON WORSHIP SERVICE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 6:8,9)

One: Hear the voice of God saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"

Many: **THEN I SAID, "HERE I AM, SEND ME.**

One: And God said, "Go ..."

HYMN THE CHURCH ALIVE

We are the Church Alive, Christ's presence on this earth; We give God's Spirit body in the act of our new birth. As yielded open channels for God's descending dove, We shout and sing, with joy we ring God's all inclusive love.

We are the Church Alive, Our faith has set us free; No more enslaved by guilt and shame, we live our liberty! We follow Christ's example and freedom now proclaim, Destroying myths of doubt and fear in Jesus' mighty name.

PRAYER: (Adapted from *Guerrillas of Grace*)

One: O God, turn your Spirit loose now and us with it. Grant us grace to live to the limit of being unflinchingly alive, irrepressibly alive, and fully alive, to experience every miraculous, beautiful ounce of being a human being in your service.

Many: **Grant us grace to live the limit, of doing my duty and a little more; of loving the people around me, my friends and my enemies; of humbling myself to take others seriously and delightedly; and of applying my heart to the wisdom of your love and the freedom of honesty.**

All: **O God, turn your Spirit loose right now in this place, and us with it; That we may go to be your healing and helping hands in our communities. Grant us grace, to move forward from this moment in time to look directly, openly and truly, to your promise that nothing can ever again separate us from your love.**

PRAISE CHORUS: SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL (Twice)

Something Beautiful, something good.
All my confusion, You understood!
All I had to offer You was brokenness and strife,
But You made something beautiful of my life.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Reader: The Scripture reading this afternoon is taken from Paul's epistle to the Church at Ephesus (Ephesians) chapter 6, verses 10 through 18.

Finally, be strong in the Sovereign One and in God's mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this evil world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God. And pray in the spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

Reader: And this ends the reading. May God add wisdom and understanding to the reading of God's Word.

All: THANKS BE TO GOD, FOR THE READING OF GOD'S WORD.

HOMILY

HYMN HAVE THINE OWN WAY

Have Thine Own way, God! Have Thine Own way.
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Hold me and make me, after Thy will.
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine Own way, God! Have Thine Own way.
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!
Power, all power, surely is Thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

Have Thine Own way, God! Have Thine Own way.
Hold o'er my being, absolute sway.
Fill with Thy Spirit, 'til all shall see,
Christ only always, living in me.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

DEDICATION

- Offering of ourselves (Commitment Cards)

- A Song **Here I am, Lord**

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin.
My hand will save.
I Who make the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Who shall I send?

CHORUS

Here I am, Lord, It is I, Lord.
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, If you lead Me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone,
I will speak My Word to them.
Whom shall I send? CHORUS

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? CHORUS

- A Prayer

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (at tables)

Consecration (Sung)

One: On the night you were betrayed, you took the bread; after giving thanks you broke it and said; "This is my body, broken for you, and as you eat it remember me.

All: **"This is my body, broken for you, and as you eat it remember me."**

One: One the night you were betrayed you held the cup; after giving thanks you lifted it up. "This is my blood poured out for you, and as you drink it remember me."

All: **"This is my blood poured out for you, and as you drink it remember me."**

One: So we thank you for the wine, and for the bread; for we see the life you gave and the blood you shed. And we remember your wondrous love, you gave your body, you shed your blood.

All: **And we remember your wondrous love, you gave your body, you shed your blood. (3X)**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

PRESENTATION TO PARTICIPANTS

- Pins
- Certificates of ministry
- Stoles

HYMN CHILDREN OF THE RAINBOW PROMISE

Children of the Rainbow Promise,
With God's blessing sure upon us
By the Spirit's living water,
Born again; God's sons and daughters.

O Immortal God of Glory,
When we tell the world your story,
May they see we're not in factions;
May they know you by our actions.

By the covenant we're saying
We're your Church, and here we're staying,
Not a building with a steeple,
But God's loving, caring people!

OFFERING

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

1. LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning
on the everlasting arms.

What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

CHORUS:

*Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms.
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.*

Oh how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
Oh how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my God so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

2. WHEN WE ALL GET TO HEAVEN

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, sing of mercy
and God's grace.

In a mansion, bright and blessed, there's
prepared for us a place.

CHORUS:

*When we all get to heaven,
What a day of rejoicing that will be.
When we all see Jesus,
We'll sing and shout the victory.*

Let us then be true and faithful, trusting
serving every day.
Just one glimpse of Christ in Glory will the
toils of life repay.

Onward to the prize before us! Soon Christ's
beauty we'll behold.
Soon the pearly gates will open, we shall
tread the streets of gold.

3. SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Something Beautiful, something good.
All my confusion You understood!
All I had to offer You was brokenness and
strife,
But You made something beautiful of my life.

4. WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT

We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored.

CHORUS:

*And they'll know we are Christians by our
love, by our love.
Yes, they will know we are Christians by
our love.*

We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our Land

We will work with each other,
We will work side by side.
We will work with each other,
We will work side by side.
And we'll guard each one's dignity
And save each one's pride.

All praise to YAHWEH,
From whom all blessings come.
And all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit,
Who makes us one.

5. I AM LOVED

I am loved. I am loved.
I can risk loving you.
For the One who knows me best loves me most.

I am loved. You are loved.
Won't you please take my hand.
We are free to love each other. We are Loved.

6. PASS IT ON

It only takes a spark to get a fire going.
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.

That's how it is with God's Love, once you've experienced it.

You spread God's Love to every one;
You want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is Spring, when all the trees are budding.

The birds begin to sing.

The flowers start their blooming.

That's how it is with God's Love, once you've experienced it.

You want to sing it's fresh like Spring;
You want to pass it on.

I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found.

You can depend on God. It matters not where you're bound.

I'll shout it from the mountain top!

I want my world to know.

The God of love has come to me;

I want to pass it on.

7. OUR GOD IS LIKE AN EAGLE

When Israel camped in Sinai, then Moses heard from God. This message tell the people, and give them this My Word: From Egypt I was with you, and carried on My wing, the whole of your great nation from slavery I did bring.

Just like a Mother Eagle, who helps her young to fly, I am a Mother to you, your needs I will supply. And you are as my children, My own who hear My Voice. I am a Mother to you, the people of My choice.

If God is like an eagle, who helps her young to fly, and God is also Father, then what of you and I? We have no fear of labels, we have no fear of roles. If God's own being binds them, we seek the self-same goals.

Our God is not a woman, our God is not a man.
Our God is both and neither, our God is I Who Am. From all the roles that bind us our God has set us free. What freedom does God give us? The freedom just to be!

8. AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now am found.
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear.
And Grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that Grace appear.
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers toils and snares,
We have already come.

'Tis Grace hath brought us safe thus far,
And Grace will lead us home.

When we've been there the thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when we first begun.

9. GLORY TO YOUR NAME

Down at the cross where my Savior died;
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried,
There to my heart was the blood applied.
Glory to Your Name.

CHORUS:

*Glory to Your Name! Glory to Your Name!
There to my heart was the Blood applied.
Glory to Your Name!*

I am so wonderously saved from sin.
Jesus so sweetly abides within.
There at the Cross where You took me in.
Glory to Your Name!

Oh precious fountain that saves from sin,
I am so glad that I entered in.
There where You saved me and made me clean.
Glory to Your Name!

Come to this fountain so rich and sweet;
Cast your poor soul at the Savior's feet.
Plunge in today and be made complete.
Glory to God's Name!

10. I LOVE YOU GOD

I love You God. And I lift my voice,
To worship You, oh my soul rejoice.
Take joy my Love in what You hear.
May it be a sweet, sweet sound,
In Your ear.

Oh Lord, My God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the Universe displayed.

CHORUS:

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee.
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee.
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

When though the woods and forest glades I
wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

And when I think that God's own Child, not
sparing,
Was sent to die, I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come, with shout of
acclamation, to take me home,
What joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and
there proclaim, my God how great Thou art!

12. SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face.
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

CHORUS:

*Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us filling us with
Your Love. And for these blessings, we
lift our hearts in praise. Without a
doubt we'll know that we have been
revived when we shall leave this place.*

There are blessings you cannot receive 'Til
you know Christ in all fullness and believe.
You're the one to profit when you say, "I am
going to walk with Jesus all the way."

If you say Christ saved you from you sin, Now
you're weak, you're bound and cannot enter in.
You can make it right if you will yield,
You'll enjoy the Holy Spirit that we feel.

Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.

CHORUS:

*When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
Oh, God have mercy on me.*

Let us drink the cup together on our knees.
Let us drink the cup together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees.

14. IT'S A HAPPY DAY

It's a happy day
And I thank God for the weather.
It's a happy day
When I'm living it for my God.
It's a happy day
And things are gonna' get better.
Living each day by the promises in God's Word.

15. I'LL FLY AWAY

Some glad morning when this life is o'er
I'll fly away.
To a land on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away.

CHORUS:

*I'll fly away (oh glory)
I'll fly away (in the morning)
When I die hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away.*

Just a few more weary days and then
I'll fly away.
To a land where joy shall never end
I'll fly away.

When the shadows of this life have gone
I'll fly away.
Like a bird from prison bars has flown
I'll fly away.

16. JESUS MY LORD

CHORUS:

*Have you seen Jesus my Lord,
Christ is here in plain view.
Take a look, open your eyes
Christ will show it to you.*

Have you ever looked at the sunset,
With the sky mellowin' red,
And the clouds suspended like feathers?
Then I say, you've seen Jesus my Lord.

Have you ever stood at the ocean,
With the white foam at your feet,
Felt the endless thunderin' motion,
Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.

Have you ever looked at the cross,
With a man hangin' in pain,
Seen the look of Love in His eyes?,
Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.

Have you ever stood in the family,
With the Lord there in your midst,
Seen the face of Christ on each other?
Then I say, you've seen Jesus my Lord.

17. HA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LE-LU-IA

CHORUS:

Ha-la-la-la-la-la-le-luia
Ha-la-la-la-la-le-luia
Ha-la-la-la-la-la-le-luia
Ha-la-la-la-la-le-luia

Take another hand, take the hand next to ya',
Take another hand and sing this song.
Take another hand, take the hand next to ya',
Take another hand and sing, sing this song.

Raise another hand...
Clap another hand, clap the hand...
Do a little dance with the one...
Give a big hug to the one...

18. SING ALLELUIA

Sing alleluia to our God.
Sing alleluia to our God.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia,
Sing alleluia, to our God

19. JESUS IN THE MORNING

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning,
Jesus in the noontime,
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down.

Love Christ...
Serve God...
Thank God...
Praise God...

20. 600 IS 50 6000

God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, God's so good to me.

God cares for me...
I'll do God's will...
Jesus is Lord...
God's Love never ends...

21. THY LOVING KINDNESS

Thy loving kindness is better than life.
Thy loving kindness is better than life.
My lips shall praise Thee,
Thus will I bless Thee,
I will lift up my hands unto Thy Name.

I lift my hands up unto Thy Name.
I lift my hands up unto Thy Name.
My lips shall praise Thee,
Thus will I bless Thee,
I will lift up my hands unto Thy Name.

22. HUMBLE YOURSELF IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Humble yourself in the presence of God.
Humble yourself in the presence of God,
And God will lift you up,
And God will lift you up.

23. SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Something beautiful, something good,
All my confusion, You understood.
All I had to offer You was brokenness and
strife,
But You made something beautiful of my life.

24. LOVE COME A TRICKLIN' DOWN

CHORUS:

*Seek, and ye shall find.
Knock, and the door will be open.
Ask, and it shall be given,
And Love come a tricklin' down.*

My sister the Lord has been here.
My sister the Lord has been here.
My sister the Lord has been here
And Love come a tricklin' down.

My brother the Lord has been here...

My Lord, He died on Calvary...

My Lord, He rose on Easter...

Halleluia, the Lord is with us...

25. THIS IS THE DAY

This is the day, this is the day,
That our God has made, that our God has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
That our God has made.

26. REJOICE IN OUR GOD ALWAYS

Rejoice in our God always
And again I say rejoice.
Rejoice in our God always
And again I say rejoice.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
And again I say rejoice!
Rejoice! Rejoice!
And again I say rejoice!

27. DO LORD

CHORUS:

*Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me.
Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me.
Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me.
Look a-way beyond the blue.*

I've got a home in Glory land that outshines
the sun.

I've got a home in Glory land that outshines
the sun.

I've got a home in Glory land that outshines
the sun.

Look a-way beyond the blue.

If you don't bear the cross then you can't
wear the crown. (3X)

Look a-way beyond the blue.

I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too.
(3X)

Look a-way beyond the blue.

28. THE BLOOD WILL NEVER LOSE ITS POWER

The blood that Jesus shed for me,
Way back on Calvary,
The blood that gives me strength
From day to day.
It will never lose its power.

CHORUS:

*It reaches to the highest mountain.
It flows to the lowest valley.
The blood that gives me strength from day
to day,
It will never lose its power.*

It soothes my doubts and calms my fears.
And it dries all my tears;
The blood that gives me strength from day to
day,
It will never lose its power.

29. SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.

30. HOLY GROUND

This is Holy Ground. We're standing on Holy
Ground.
For our God is present and where God is is
Holy.
This is Holy Ground. We're standing on Holy
Ground.
For our God is present and where God is is
Holy.

These are holy hands. God's given us holy
hands.
God works through these hands and so these
hands are holy.
These are holy hands. God's given us holy
hands.
God works through these hands and so these
hands are holy.

31. IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrow like sea billows roll.
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

CHORUS:

*It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well
With my soul.*

My sin, oh the joy of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part, but the whole.
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, oh my soul.

And Lord haste the day when my faith shall be
sight.
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll.
The trump shall resound, and my Lord shall
descend.
Even so, it is well with my soul.

32. KUM BA YA

Kum ba ya, my God, Kum ba ya.
Kum ba ya, my God, Kum ba ya.
Kum ba ya, my God, Kum ba ya.
Oh, God, kum ba ya.

Someone's praying...
Someone's singing...
Come by here...

33. SINCE JESUS CAME INTO MY HEART

What a wonderful change in my life has been
wrought,
Since Jesus came into my heart!
I have light in my soul for which long I have
sought,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

CHORUS:

*Since Jesus came into my heart,
Since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul,
Like the sea billows roll,
Since Jesus came into my heart.*

I have ceased from my wandering and going
astray,
Since Jesus came into my heart.
And my sins which were many are all washed
away
Since Jesus came into my heart.

I shall go there to dwell in that city I know,
Since Jesus came into my heart.
And I'm happy, so happy as onward I go,
Since Jesus came into my heart.

34. WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear.
What a privilege to carry,
Everything to God in prayer.

Oh, what peace we often forfeit!
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.

35. BLESS THE LORD

CHORUS:

*Bless the Lord, oh my soul
And let all that is within me
Praise God's Holy Name.
(Repeat)*

God has been so good, God has been so good,
God has been so good, God's so good to me.

God has done great things, God has done great
things,
God has done great things, Gods' so good to
me.

36. JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me! This I know. For the Bible
tells me so;
Little ones to God belong, they are weak, but
God is strong.

CHORUS:

*Yes! Jesus Loves me!
Yes! Jesus loves me.
Yes! Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me, the One who died; Heaven's
gate to open wide;
God will wash away my sin, let this little
child come in.

37. JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays;
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea.
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest;
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Maker, Christ our Savior,
All who live in love are Thine.
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to Thy joy divine.

38. YOUR NAME IS WONDERFUL

Your Name is Wonderful, Your Name is Wonderful
Your Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord;
You are of whom I sing, Master of everything;
Your Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord.
You're the Great Shepherd,
The Rock of All Ages,
Almighty God are You.
I bow down before You, love and adore You.
Your Name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord.

39. BLESSED ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine.
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of God's Spirit,
Washed in Christ's blood.

CHORUS:

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long.*

Perfect subaission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect subaission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest.
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with God's goodness,
Lost in God's Love.

40. HEAVEN CAME DOWN AND GLORY FILLED MY SOUL

Oh, what a wonderful, wonderful day, day I
will never forget. After I'd wandered in
darkness away, Jesus, my Savior I met.
Oh, what a tender compassionate friend,
Who met the needs of my heart,
Shadows dispelling, with joy I am telling,
Christ made all the darkness depart.

CHORUS:

*Heaven came down and glory filled my
soul.
When at the cross my Savior made me
whole.
My sins were washed away,
And my night was turned to day.
Heaven came down and glory filled my
soul.*

Born of the Spirit with life from above,
Into God's family divine,
Justified fully through Calvary's Love,
Oh, what a standing is mine;
And the transaction so quickly was made,
When at the cross I believed,
Took of the offer of grace did I profit,
God saved me oh praise Jesus' name.

Now I've a hope that will surely endure,
After the passing of time.
I have a future in heaven for sure,
There in those mansions sublime;
And it's because of that wonderful day,
When at the cross I believed.
Riches eternal and blessings supernal,
From God's precious hand I received.

41. VICTORY IN JESUS

I heard an old, old story
How a Savior came from Glory
How You gave Your life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me.
I heard about Your groaning
Of Your precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory.

CHORUS:

*Oh victory in Jesus, my Savior forever
You sought me and bought me with Your
redeeming blood.
You loved me 'ere I knew You
And all my love is due You.
You plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood.*

I heard about Your healing
Of Your cleansing power revealing
How You made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see.
And then I cried, 'Dear Jesus,
Come and heal my broken spirit.'
And somehow Jesus came and brought
To me the victory.

I heard about a mansion
You have built for me in glory.
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea.
About the angels singing
And the old redemption story
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory.

42. THE FAMILY OF GOD

CHORUS:

*I'm so glad I'm a part
Of the family of God.
I've been washed in the fountain,
Cleansed by the blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus
As we travel this sod.
I'm a part of the family,
The family of God*

You will notice we say "brother"
And "sister" 'round here.
It's because we're a family
And these folks are so dear.
When one has a heartache,
We all shed a tear,
And rejoice in each victory,
In this family so dear.

From the door of an orphanage,
To the hous of the King,
No longer an outcast,
A new song I sing.
From rags unto riches,
From the weak to the strong,
I'm not worthy to be here,
But praise God I belong!

43. HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy! Our God Almighty!
Early in the morning,
Our song shall rise to Thee!
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, Blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the Saints adore Thee!
Casting down their golden crowns,
Around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee
Who vert and art and evermore shall be!

Holy, Holy, Holy! Our God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name
In earth and sky and sea!
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, Blessed Trinity!

44. ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,

You have saved us, alleluia...

You are coming, alleluia...

We will see You, alleluia...

God we love You, alleluia...

We will serve You, alleluia...

45. LET'S JUST PRAISE OUR GOD

Let's just praise our God!
Praise our God!
Let's just lift our voice toward Heaven,
And praise our God!

46. HAVE THINE OWN WAY

CHORUS:

*Have Thine Own way, God.
Have Thine Own way.
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, after Thy will,
While I am waiting, yeilded and still.*

Have Thine Own way, God! Have Thine Own way.
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!
Power, all power, surely is Thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

Have Thine Own way, God! Have Thine Own way.
Hold o'er my being, absolute sway.
Fill with Thy Spirit, 'till all shall see,
Christ only always, living in me.

47. IN THE GARDEN

I come to the garden alone, while the dew is
still on the roses; and the voice I hear,
falling on my ear, the living God discloses.

CHORUS:

*And You walk with me, and You talk with
me, and You tell me I am Your own.
And the joy we share, as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.*

You speak and the sound of Your voice, is so
sweet the birds hush their singing; and the
melody that You give to me, within my heart is
ringing.

48. I'VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER

I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean...
I've got joy like a fountain...

49. JESUS. NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord;
Emanuel, God is with us;
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

50. FOR THOSE TEARS I DIED

You said You'd come and share all my sorrows,
You said You'd be there for all my tomorrows.
I came so close to sending You away, but just
like You promised, You came there to stay.

CHORUS:

*And Jesus said, "Come to the water, stand
by My side; I know you are thirsty, you
won't be denied.
I felt every tear drop, when in darkness
you cried, and I strove to remind you,
That for those tears I died."*

Your goodness so great, I can't understand.
And Jesus, I know that all this was planned;
I know You're here now and always will be.
Your love loosed my chains and in You I'm
free, but Jesus why me?

Jesus I give You my heart and my soul, I know
that without You I'd never be whole.
Savior, You've opened all the right doors,
And I thank You, and praise You from earth's
humble shores. Take me I'm Yours.

51. HIGHER GROUND

I'm pressing on the upward way, New heights
I'm gaining every day. Still praying as I
homeward bound, God plant my feet on higher
ground.

CHORUS:

*Oh, lift me up and let me stand, by faith
on Heaven's tableland;
A higher plane that I have found, God
plant my feet on higher ground.*

My heart has no desire to stay, Where doubts
arise and fears dismay; Though some my dwell
where these abound, My prayer my aim is higher
ground.

I want to live above the world, though Satan's
darts at me are hurled; For faith has caught
the joyful sound, The song of saints on higher
ground.

I want to scale the utmost height and catch a
gleam of glory bright; But still I'll pray,
'til heaven I've found "God, lead me on to
higher ground.

52. WE HAVE COME INTO THIS HOUSE

We have come into this house, gathered in Your Name to worship You.

We have come into this house, gathered in Your Name to worship You.

We have come into this house, gathered in Your Name to worship You our God.

Worship You, Jesus Christ our Lord.

We will lift up holy hands and magnify Your name and worship You.

We will lift up holy hands and magnify Your name and worship You.

We will lift up holy hands and magnify Your name and worship You our God.

We will worship You, Jesus Christ our Lord.

53. JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE

CHORUS:

*Just a closer walk with Thee;
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea.
Daily walking close to Thee;
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

I am weak, but Thou are strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong.
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk, close to Thee.

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, God, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, my God, none but Thee.

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more.
Guide me to that peaceful shore;
Let me walk, let me walk, close to Thee.

54. THEY THAT WAIT UPON OUR GOD

They that wait upon our God, shall renew their strength; They shall mount up on wings as eagles. They shall run and not grow weary, They shall walk and not faint.
Teach me God, teach me God to wait.

55. YAHWEH. I ADORE YOU

YAHWEH, I adore You. Lay my life before You.
How I love you.

Jesus... Spirit...

56. SURELY THE PRESENCE

Surely, the presence
Of our God is in this place.
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face.
Surely, the presence
Of our God is in this place.

57. GLORIFY THY NAME

YAHWEH, we love You,
We praise You, we adore You.
Glorify Thy Name above the earth.
Glorify Thy Name, Glorify Thy Name,
Glorify Thy Name above the Earth.

Jesus... Spirit...

58. OUR GOD REIGNS

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of God, who brings good news, good news.
Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness.

Our God reigns! Our God reigns!
Our God reigns, our God reigns,
Our God reigns, our God reigns!

59. REVIVE US AGAIN

We praise Thee, Oh God, for the One of Thy Love, for Jesus who died and is now gone above.

CHORUS:

*Hallelujah, Thine the glory! Hallelujah,
Amen! Hallelujah, Thine the glory!
Revive us again.*

We praise Thee, Oh God, for Thy Spirit of Light, who has shown us our Savior and banished our night.

All glory and praise to the One that was slain, Who has taken our sins and has cleansed every stain.

Revive us again, fill each heart with Thy Love. May each soul be rekindled with fire from above.

60. THE SEVEN CHORUSES

When the roll is called up yonder,
I'll be traveling on the Holy Way,
Tell me the old, old story,
I love it better every D-A-Y,
I will make you 'fishers of souls'
If you'll only follow me.
Hallelujah, what a Savior,
Christ belongs to me.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep it burning,
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep it burning,
Keep it burning 'til the break of day.
(And then we'll) Sing Hosanna! Sing Hosanna!
Sing Hosanna to Almighty God!
Sing Hosanna! Sing Hosanna!
Sing Hosanna to our God.

61. LET ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME CRY HOLY

Let all that is within me cry holy.
Let all that is within me cry holy.
Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lamb that was slain.

Let all that is within me cry worthy.
Let all that is within me cry worthy.
Worthy, Worthy, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.

Let all that is within me cry Jesus.
Let all that is within me cry Jesus.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lamb that was slain.

Let all that is within me cry glory!
Let all that is within me cry glory!
Glory! Glory! Glory to the Lamb that was slain.

62. THOU ARE WORTHY

Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy, Oh God,
To receive glory, glory and honor,
Glory, and honor, and power.
For Thou hast created, hast all things created
Thou hast created all things.
And for Thy pleasure, they are created,
For Thou art worthy, Oh God.

63. WE'VE A STORY TO TELL TO THE NATIONS

We've a story to tell to the Nations,
That shall turn their hearts to the right.
A story of truth and mercy,
A story of peace and light.
A story of peace and light.

CHORUS:

*For the darkness shall turn to the dawning,
And the dawning to noonday bright,
And Christ's great dominion shall come to earth,
The dominion of Love and Light.*

We've a message to give to the nations,
That our God who reigneth above,
Hath sent Jesus Christ to save us,
And shown us that God is Love.
And shown us that God is Love.

We've a Savior to show to the nations,
Who the path of sorrow hath trod,
That all of the world's great peoples,
Might come to the Truth of God.
Might come to the Truth of God.

64. WE SHALL OVERCOME

We shall overcome. We shall overcome. We shall overcome someday. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, we shall overcome someday.

God will see us through. God will see us through. God will see us through someday. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, God will see us through someday.

We'll walk hand in hand. We'll walk hand in hand. We'll walk hand in hand someday. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, we'll walk hand in hand someday.

We are not afraid. We are not afraid. We are not afraid today. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, we are not afraid today.

65. EMMANUEL

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Your Name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, Your Name is called Emmanuel.

66. THE LORD OF THE DANCE

I danced in the morning, when the world was begun,
and I danced in the Moon and the stars
and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I
danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.

CHORUS:

*Dance then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance you see.
And I'll lead you all,
Wherever you may be,
I will lead you all in the dance with me.*

I danced for the Scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they would not follow me.

I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.
They came to me and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.
The holy people said, "It surely was a shame."
They whipped me and stripped me and hung me high,
and they left me there on the cross to die.

I danced on Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the world on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down, and I leapt up high, I am the life
that'll never, never die. I'll live in you
if you live in Me, I am the Lord of the dance,
you see.

67. A PERFECT HEART

CHORUS:

*Bless our God, who reigns in beauty.
Bless our God, who reigns with Wisdom and
with power. Bless our God, who reigns my
life with so much love.
God can make a perfect heart.*

Morning Sun, light of creation;
Grassy fields, a velvet floor;
Silver clouds, a shimmering curtain;
God's designed a perfect world.
I'm amazed at God's talents.
Stand in awe of one so great;
Now my soul begins to sing out
To the source from which it came.

68. DE COLORES

Bright with colors,
Bright with colors the fields love to dress in
all during the springtime;
Bright with colors,
Bright with colors the bird have their
clothing that comes every season.
Bright with colors,
Bright with colors the rainbow is splendid
across the blue sky;
Bright with colors, and so must all love be of
every bright color to make our heart cry.
Bright with colors, and so must all love be of
every bright color to make our hearts cry.

Bright with colors,
Bright with colors we witness the sunrise on
clear and bright mornings.
Bright with colors,
Bright with colors the sun gives its
treasures, God's Light, to God's children;
Bright with colors,
Bright with colors the diamond will sparkle
when brought to the light;
Bright with colors, and so must all love be of
every bright color to make our hearts cry.
Bright with colors, and so must all love be
every bright color to make our hearts cry.

Joyfully, joyfully we will live in God's
friendship because our God wills it;
Faithfully, faithfully we will answer the
calling of Christ the immortal;
Joyfully, joyfully we will bring God our own
lives and thousands of others.
Pouring outward the light from within the
grace of our God, our Great Ideal.
Pouring outward the light from within the
grace of our God, our Great Ideal.

Missionaries, Missionaries of Christ with
God's courage determined to conquer;
Vibrant Christians,
Vibrant Christians who don't pay attention to
people who scorn us.
Let the coward,
Let the cowards divide us and taunt us but it
is the truth;
That they really desire the pleasure of being
in Grace in colors with us.
That they really desire the pleasure of being
in Grace in colors with us.

"DE COLORES!!!"

69. THE COMMUNION SONG

In the upper room the Disciples sat around
their Lord,
As Jesus stands to share a meal they hear
Christ say,

CHORUS:

*"This is my body which is broken for you,
And for you I've known the pain.
This wine you drink recalls My Blood that
is shed,
Please don't let it be in vain."*

For two thousand years believers have
remembered still,
That a Savior died, and rose, and calls today.

Everyone through all of time is dead or dying
now;
What this good gift means; that we can live
again.

70. WHERE YOU LEAD ME

I can hear my Savior calling,
I can hear my Savior calling,
I can hear my Savior calling,
"Take your cross and follow,
Follow me."

CHORUS:

*Where You lead me I will follow,
Where You lead me I will follow,
Where You lead me I will follow,
I'll go with You, with You all the way.*

I'll go with You through the garden,
I'll go with You through the garden,
I'll go with You through the garden,
I'll go with You, with You all the way.

I'll go with You through the judgement,
I'll go with You through the judgement,
I'll go with You through the judgement,
I'll go with You, with You all the way.

You will give me grace and glory,
You will give me grace and glory,
You will give me grace and glory,
And go with me, with me all the way.

71. SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Something beautiful, something good,
All my confusion, You understood.
All I had to offer You was brokenness and
strife,
But You made something beautiful of my life.

72. ONCE YOU'VE MET JESUS

CHORUS:

*I like singin' songs about Jesus,
I like praisin' the Lord!
I like singin' songs about Jesus,
I like praisin' the Lord!*

My friends tell me I'm too extreme,
That's what my friends say.
But I just tell them once you've met Jesus,
Friend, you won't feel that way!

Your friends tell you you're too extreme,
That's what your friends say.
But you just tell them once you've met Jesus,
Friend, you won't feel that way!

Our friends tell us we're too extreme,
That's what our friends say.
But we just tell them once you've met Jesus,
Friends, you won't feel that way!

73. FREELY, FREELY

God forgave my sins in Jesus' Name,
I've been born again in Jesus' Name,
And in Jesus' Name I come to you,
To share God's Love, as Jesus told us to.

CHORUS:

*Christ said,
"Freely, freely you have received.
Freely, freely give.
Go in My Name and because you believe,
Others will know that I live."*

All power is giv'n in Jesus' Name,
In earth and heav'n in Jesus' Name,
And in Jesus' Name I come to you,
To share God's Love, as Jesus told us to.

74. EL SHADDAI

CHORUS:

*El Shaddai, El Shaddai, El Elyonna
Adonai,
Age to age You're still the same,
By the power of the Name.
El Shaddai, El Shaddai, erkankana Adonai
We will praise and lift You high,
El Shaddai.*

Through Your Love and through the ram You
saved the son of Abraham,
Through the power of Your hand,
You turned the sea into dry land;
To the outcast on her knees
You were the God who really sees,
And by Your might You set Your children free.

Through the years You made it clear
That the time of Christ was near,
Though the people couldn't see
What Messiah ought to be;
Though Your Word contained the plan,
They just could not understand;
Your most awesome work was done
Through the frailty of Christ the One.

75. SEEK YE FIRST

Seek ye first the Dominion of God,
And God's righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu - Alleluia.

Where two or three are gathered in My Name,
There am I in their midst.
And whatsoever ye shall ask I will do,
Allelu - Alleluia.

76. PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT

Most High and Glorious God,
Bring light to the darkness of my heart.
Give me right faith, certain hope,
And perfect charity.
God give me insight and wisdom,
That I might always discern
Your holy and true will.

77. JESUS, LET US COME TO KNOW YOU

Jesus, let us come to know You;
Let us see You face to face.
Touch us, hold us, use us, mold us;
Only let us live in You.
Jesus, draw us ever nearer;
Hold us in Your loving arms.
Wrap us in Your gentle presence;
And when the end comes bring us home.

78. LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin
with me. Let there be peace on earth the
peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Creator, we are family.
Let us walk with each other in perfect
harmony.

Let peace begin with me let this be the moment
now. With every step I take let this be my
solemn vow, to take each moment and live each
moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

79. COME TO THE WATER

Oh, let all who thirst, let them come to the
water. And let all who have nothing, let them
come to our God; Without money, without price.
Why should you pay the price, Except for our
God?

And let all who seek, let them come to the
water. And let all who have nothing, let them
come to our God; Without money, without
strife. Why should you spend your life,
Except for our God?

And let all who toil, let them come to the
water. And let all who are weary, let them
come to our God; All who labor, without rest.
How can your soul find rest, except in our
God?

And let all the poor, let them come to the
water. Bring the ones who are laden, bring
them all to our God. Bring the child^{and}
without sight.
Easy the load and light; Come to our God.

80. PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS (of Asissi)

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there is hatred let me sow Your Love;
Where there is injury, Your pardon, God,
And where there's doubt true faith in You.

CHORUS:

*Oh, Jesus, grant that I may never seek,
So much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring
hope
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there's sadness ever joy.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

81. I WILL SERVE THEE

I will serve Thee, because I love Thee,
You have given life to me.
I was nothing before You found me,
You have given life to me.

Heartaches, broken pieces,
Ruined lives are why You died on Calv'ry.
Your touch is what I longed for,
You have given life to me.

82. TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in that wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely
dim
In the light of God's glory and grace.

83. WE WORSHIP AND ADORE THEE

We worship and adore Thee,
Bowing down before Thee,
Songs of praises singing,
Hallelujahs ringing.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah. Amen.

84. ARKY. ARKY

The Lord told Noah, there's gonna be a floody,
floody,
The Lord told Noah, there's gonna be a floody,
floody,
Get those animals out of the muddy, muddy,
Children of the Lord.

CHORUS:

*Rise and shine And give God the glory, glory.
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory,
Children of the Lord.*

The Lord told Noah
To build him an arky, arky,
The Lord told Noah
To build him an arky, arky,
Build it out of gopher barky, barky,
Children of the Lord.

The animals, the animals,
They came in by two-sies, two-sies,
The animals, the animals,
They came in by two-sies, two-sies,
Elephants and kanga-roosies, roosies,
Children of the Lord.

It rained and poured
For forty daysies, daysies,
Rained and poured
For forty daysies, daysies,
Almost drove those animals crazy, crazy,
Children of the Lord.

The sun came out,
And dried up the landy, landy,
The sun came out,
And dried up the landy, landy,
Everything was fine and dandy, dandy,
Children of the Lord.

If you get there before I do-sie, do-sie,
You get there before I do-sie, do-sie,
Tell those angels I'm coming too-sie, too-sie,
Children of the Lord.

85. THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THAT NAME

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, There's just something
about that name. Master, Savior, Jesus, like
the fragrance after the rain. Je-us, Jesus,
Jesus, let all heaven and earth proclaim.
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away, but
there's something about that name.

86. DWELLING IN BEULAH LAND

Far away the noise of strife upon my ear is falling,
Then I know the sins of earth beset on ev'ry hand;
Doubt and fear and things of earth in vain to me are calling,
None of these shall move me from Beulah Land.

CHORUS:

*I'm living on the mountain, underneath a cloudless sky (Praise God!);
I'm drinking at the fountain that never shall run dry (Oh, Yes);
I'm feasting on the manna from a bountiful supply for I am dwelling in Beulah Land.*

Let the storay breezes blow, their cry cannot alarm me,
I am safely sheltered here, protected by God's hand;
Here the sun is always shining, here there's naught can harm me.
I am safe forever in Beulah Land.

Viewing here the works of God, I sink in contemplation;
Hearing now God's blessed voice, I see the way God planned;
Dwelling in the Spirit here I learn of full salvation,
Gladly will I tarry in Beulah Land.

87. YOU'RE EVERYTHING TO ME

In the stars Your handiwork I see,
On the wind You speak with majesty,
Though You ruleth over land and sea,
What is that to me?
I will celebrate nativity,
For it has a place in history,
Sure, You came to set Your people free,
What is that to me?

'Til by faith I met You face to face,
And I felt the wonder of Your grace,
Then I knew that You were more than just
A god who didn't care that lived a way out there, and now You walk beside me day by day.
Ever watching o'er me lest I stray,
Helping me to find that narrow way,
You're everything to me! (Repeat)

88. SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY

A pilgrim was I and a wandering,
In the cold night of sin I did roam;
When Jesus the kind Shepherd found me-
And now I am on my way home.

CHORUS:

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days, all the days of my life;
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days, all the days of my life.*

God restoreth my soul when I'm weary,
And giveth me strength day by day;
God leads me beside the still waters,
And guards me each step of the way.

(Coda after 2nd Chorus)

*And I shall dwell in the house of our God forever, and I shall feast at the table spread for me.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days, all the days of my life.*

89. I'M YOURS

CHORUS:

*I'm Yours, Lord! Ev'rything I've got,
Ev'rything I am, ev'rything I'm not;
I'm Yours, Lord! Try me now and see,
See if I can be completely Yours.*

My life and my love I leave in Your hands;
I'll gladly perform as Your will demands.
I know it's not much, Your gift to repay;
But it all I can give, and all I can say is:

You put in us all a desire to belong,
To join with Your strength, and thus become strong.
With that thought in mind, I reach for the prize,
I lift up my voice to reemphasize that -

90. DOWN IN MY HEART

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart.
Down in my heart, down in my heart.
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart.
Down in my heart to stay.

I've got the peace that passes
understanding down in my heart...

I've got the Love of Jesus, love of Jesus
down in my heart...

I've got the wonderful love of my blessed
Redeemer deep down in the depths of my
heart...

91. PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT

Most High and glorious God
Bring joy to the sorrow in my heart
Give us right faith, certain hope,
And perfect charity.
God give us insight and wisdom
That we might always discern
Your holy and true will

92. I WANT TO PRAISE YOU GOD

I want to praise You God much more than I do.
I want to praise You God much more than I do.
Learn to seek your face and the knowledge of
Your grace.
I want to praise You!

Know You...
Love You...
Serve You...
Praise You...

93. JESUS IN THE MORNING

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning,
Jesus in the noon-time.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,
Jesus when the sun goes down.

Love Christ...
Serve Christ...
Thank God...
Praise God...

94. I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS

I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
No turning back. No turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will
follow...

The world behind me, the cross before
me...

95. I LOVE YOU

We can be together for now and forever,
I love you, I love you!
Now that I'm prayin', I hear God saying,
"I love you, I love you!"
People all over the world are opening up,
They're coming around, and they're singing,

CHORUS:

*I love you, I love you, I love you,
I love you, I love you, I love you,
I love you, I love you, I love you,
I love you, I love you, I love you!*

Brothers and sisters, Ms.'s and Mr.'s,
I love you, I love you!
Now that I feel it, I can't conceal it,
I love you, I love you!
Jesus came into the world to show us the way
to set us all free and when He died He was
singing...

We can be together for now and forever,
I love you, I love you!
Brothers and Sisters, Ms.'s and Mr.'s,
I love you, I love you!
And we're singing...

96. SOMETIMES ALLELUIA

CHORUS:

*Sometimes alleluia,
Sometimes praise the Lord.
Sometimes gently singing.
Our hearts in one accord.*

Oh let us lift our voices, look toward the sky
and start to sing.

Oh let us now return God's love, just let our
voices ring.

Oh let us feel God's presence, let the sound
of praises fill the air.

Oh let us sing the song of Jesus' love to
people everywhere.

Oh let our joy be unconfined, let us sing with
freedom unrestrained.

Let's take this feeling that we're feeling
now,

Outside these walls and let it rain.

Oh let the Spirit overflow, as we are filled
from head to toe.

We love You, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost,
and we want this world to know.

97. BECAUSE YOU LIVE

God sent the Son, they called Him Jesus.
He came to love, heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior
Lives.

CHORUS:

*Because You live, I can face tomorrow.
Because You live, all fear is gone.
Because I know, You hold the future.
And life is worth the living
Just because You live.*

How sweet to hold a newborn baby
And feel the joy and pride it gives.
But greater still the calm assurance
This child can face uncertain days
Because You live.

And then one day, I'll cross that river.
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then as death leads way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory
And I'll know You live.

98. EVERYBODY OUGHT TO KNOW

Everybody ought to know,
Everybody ought to know,
Everybody ought to know,
Who Jesus is. (repeat)

CHORUS:

*You're the Lilley of the Valley,
You're the Bright and Morning Star.
You're the Fairest of Ten Thousand.
Everybody ought to know.*

Everybody ought to tell...

99. YOU TOUCHED ME

Shackled by a heavy burden,
'Neath a load of guilt and shame,
Then the hand of Jesus touched me,
And now I am no longer the same.

CHORUS:

*You touched me. Oh, You touched me.
And oh the joy that floods my soul.
Something happened, and now I know.
You touched me and made me whole.*

Since I met You, blessed Savior,
Since You cleansed and made me whole.
I will never cease to praise You.
I'll shout it while eternity rolls.

100. HEAR OUR PRAYER OH GOD

Hear our prayer, oh God.
Hear our prayer, oh God.
Incline our ear to us.
And grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

101. YOU ARE HERE

You are here! You are here!
You are moving among us.
You are here! You are here!
As we gather in Your name.

You are here! You are here!
And You want to work a wonder.
You are here! You are here!
As we gather in Your name.

102 DOXOLOGY #1

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Jesus Christ and in Christ grow.
Praise to the Holy Spirit give.
That we in love with God may live.
Amen.

103. DOXOLOGY #2

We give Thee but Thine own.
What 'ere the gifts may be.
All that we have is Thine alone.
A trust oh God from Thee.
Amen.

104. SONG OF THE SOUL

CHORUS:

*And we will sing this song,
Why don't you sing along?
And we can sing for a long, long time.
Why don't you sing this song,
Why don't you sing along?
And we can sing for a long, long time.*

Love of my life, I am crying; I am not dying,
I am dancing, dancing along in the madness;
There is no sadness, only a song of the soul.

What do you do for a living?
Are you forgiving? Giving shelter?
Follow your heart, love will find you;
Truth will unbind you;
Sing out the song of the soul.

Come to your life like a warrior,
Nothing will bore you; you can be happy.
Let in the light, It will heal you
And you can be you,
Sing out the song of the soul.

105. SPIRIT SONG

CHORUS:

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
Blow through the wilderness,
Calling and free.
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness
Stir us from placidness,
Wind, wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters, You called to the deep,
Then You coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep.
And over the eons you called to each thing,
Wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

You swept through the desert, You stung with the sand.
And You goaded Your people with a law and a land.
And when they were blinded with their fears and lies,
Then You spoke through Your prophets to open their eyes.

You sang in a stable, You cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still.
And down in the city You called once again,
When You blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

You call from tomorrow, You break ancient schemes.
from the bondage of sorrow, the captives dream dreams.
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,
With bold new decisions, Your people arise.

CHARGE

1. The first charge is for the amount of the bill for the month of January, 1910, which is \$100.00.

2. The second charge is for the amount of the bill for the month of February, 1910, which is \$100.00.

3. The third charge is for the amount of the bill for the month of March, 1910, which is \$100.00.

4. The fourth charge is for the amount of the bill for the month of April, 1910, which is \$100.00.

5. The fifth charge is for the amount of the bill for the month of May, 1910, which is \$100.00.

6. The sixth charge is for the amount of the bill for the month of June, 1910, which is \$100.00.

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CHARGE

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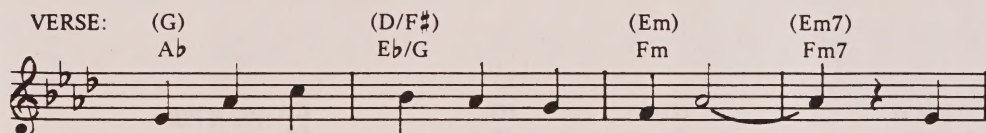
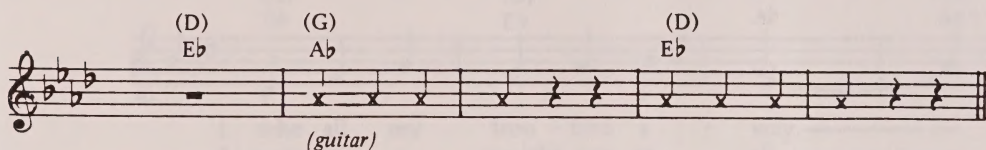
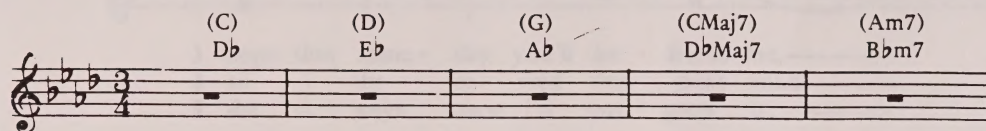
6. The sixth charge is for the amount of the bill for the month of June, 1910, which is \$100.00.

52. Stay With Me

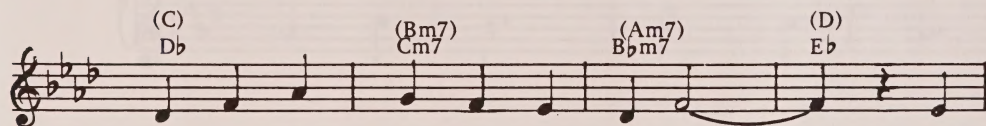
(SEE NOTES PAGE 134)

CAPO 1, PLAY C

ERICH SYLVESTER



1. I am a sou/ with - out en - vy, ——— no
2. I went to school for a long time, ——— ex-
3. I was a child once, I know it; ——— my



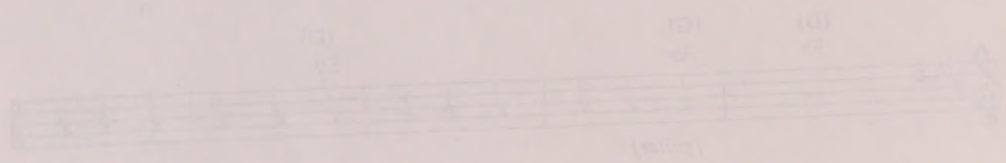
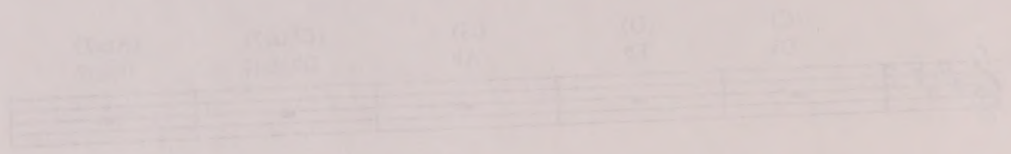
1. roof and no walls to de - fend me, ——— in
2. pect - ing to stay in a straight line, ——— un-
3. moth - er has pic - tures to show it, ——— but

Stay With Me

RAY CHARLES

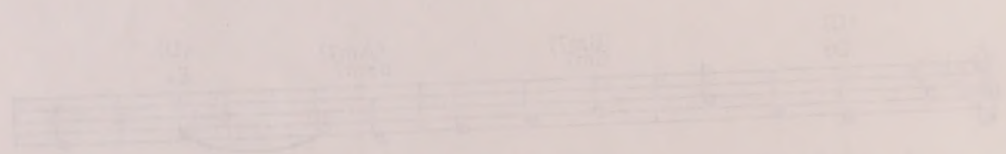
1961 RELEASE

1961 RELEASE



1. I want to
2. I want to
3. I want to

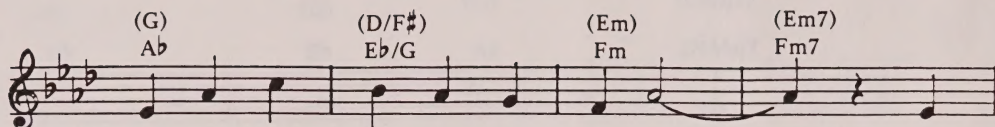
with you
stay with me
stay with me



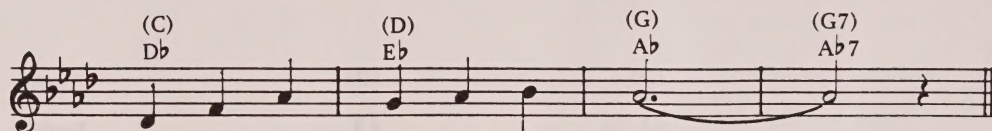
1. I want to
2. I want to
3. I want to

with you
stay with me
stay with me

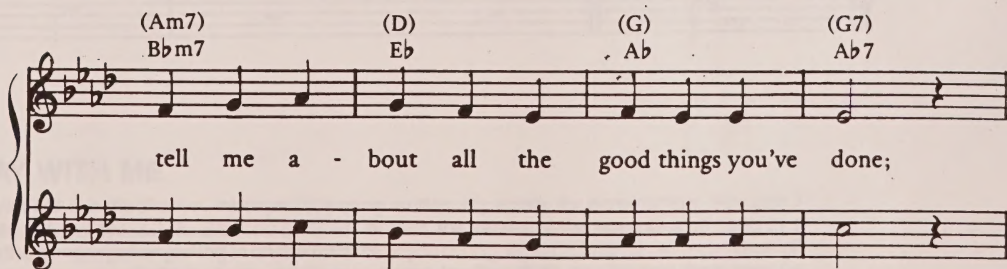
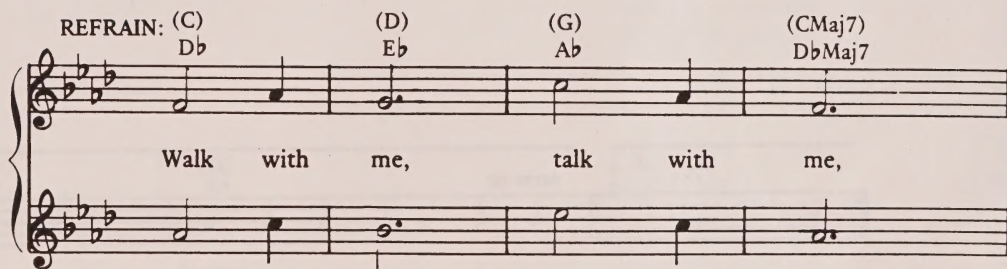
RAY CHARLES

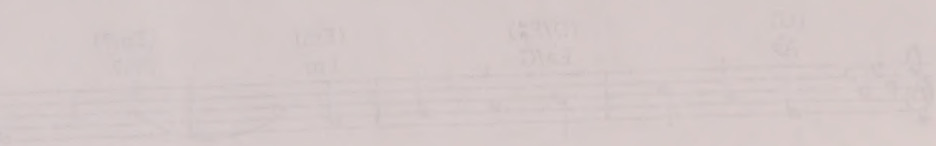


1. hope that some - day you'll be - friend me, _____ and
 2. til I dis - cov - ered that great minds _____ don't
 3. she al - ways knew I'd out - grow it; _____ I

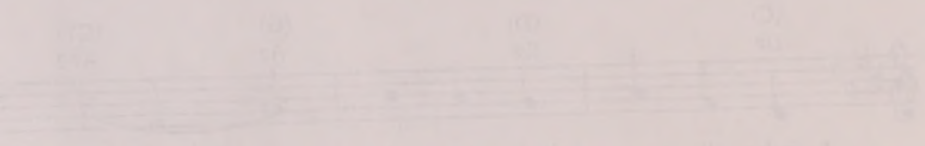


1. take all my trou - bles a - way. _____
 2. move in a straight line at all. _____
 3. guess that's what pic - tures are for. _____





I hope that some day you'll be
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then



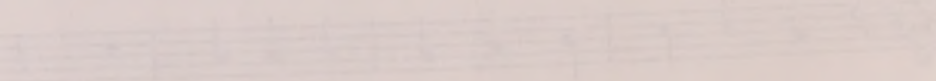
I hope that some day you'll be
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then



I hope that some day you'll be
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then



I hope that some day you'll be
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then
I'll be - here - and then



STAY WITH ME, continued (3)

(C) (D) (G) (CMaj7)
 D $\flat$ E $\flat$ A $\flat$ D $\flat$ Maj7

stay with me, pray with me,

(Am7) (D) (G)
 B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ rit. A $\flat$

leave all your blues in your shoes at the

1. (D) E $\flat$ to verse 2.
 door. (guitar) door.

door. (guitar) door.

52. STAY WITH ME

Stay With Me is a meditative, introspective song written especially for communion, although it may be used at other times. Like *Blessed be God Forever*, the verses of this song can be sung by a soloist with the congregation joining in on the refrains. If your congregation is large, with communion taking a long time, you might try some additional verses for *Stay With Me*. Writing them may be easier than you think; just follow the rhyme schemes of the given verses.

— Erich Sylvester

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1 Pasco, WA 99301 Rev. Gary Wilson
2200 W. Shoshone

FAMILY VALUES

Mark 6: 4-6 Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

In all the sermons I have heard and read, and in the last three years I have heard a lot of sermons, never once have I heard or read this text preached. The only time I've heard it referred to is in the secular world when someone wants to shoot the messenger of bad news.

This is not particularly surprising, since this slogan about not being appreciated close to home was a popular proverb of Jesus' time. Mark, Luke and John all use this proverb in different stories, so undoubtedly, Jesus did use this contemporary slang. It is the way that Jesus uses it in Mark that speaks to us as a Christian sexual minority today. It is the challenge that Jesus gives through this common catch_y proverb that calls attention to the mutuality of faith that makes healing possible. Jesus could "do no deed of power there" because of his families refusal to listen and believe. It is this remarkable fact that teaches us as radical prophets that if our house and kindred in Christ will not have faith, then no deed of power can be done, healing will not occur. In this story Jesus is a radical Jew calling his religious community toward a new way of experiencing God in the world. The Jewish trained Roman audience that Mark is addressing certainly knew their

prophets-the role of the prophet in their Hebrew Scripture and the purpose of a prophet. Jesus was a prophet by everyone's definition. Prophets of the Hebrew Scripture traditionally had a lot to say to the people about how their bad behavior was seen by God. How the will of God called for social justice in times of crisis. Crisis brought on by greed and inhospitality, in short, peoples inability to love one another. We see it in Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 18:1-15), and we see it in the story of the death the Levite Concubine (Judges 19-21) . The job of the prophet, an unpopular, thankless job, is warning and vision. Of course, people don't want to listen, because listening means change and change means giving up what you got. Prophets let people know when God is not pleased.

We, like Jesus, ~~then~~ are radically prophetic. By simply believing the inclusiveness of the Gospel and affirming our sexuality and sexual orientation in healthy and positive ways within the context of our faith-ⁱⁿour Christian house, the place that our Christian kin seems unable to hear. We like Jesus are demanding a return to a family value in which each member is valued and each member is listened to-a Christian house turned into a home for the whole family, the prodigal son and the dutiful daughter, the tax collector and the king. We like Jesus are prophets unwelcome in our own house. How is this so? and how does it connect specifically to our minority status defined by the broader culture?

What does this text have to say to us as a people marginalized by the church and society because of our sexual identities? ^{It says} ~~Is it~~ possible that we are the prophets of our hometown, our kin and our church, calling the institution accountable to the inclusive message of Jesus Christ? ^{It says} ~~Is it~~ possible that by proclaiming our sexuality and our devoutness we call into question the false interpretations of sex as sin that has oppressed so many for so long? ^{It says} ~~Is it~~ possible that this group in this church, this Sunday is empowered to be more because we have been accused of being less by others. Is it possible that the institutional Christian church's preoccupation with sex, sexuality and sexual practices has more to do with oppression than redemption. Why is the church so preoccupied with this issue when there are diseases to cure, relationships to build, love to spread, the WORK OF THE GOSPEL TO DO--and the work of the gospel is not, has never been and will never be to condemn, blame or hate.

Why are we so preoccupied with sex? Our sex, your sex, his or her sex? And why is the subject of sex and sexuality so enmeshed with sin, salvation and the church. How did sex and sexuality ever enter the debate around family values and why do self acclaimed Christians define their Christianity in terms which endorse exclusive sexual practices? Sexual practices that so often affirm power over rather than mutuality. The church just like individuals are in part

preoccupied with sex and sexuality because it is so basic to who we are as humans and still so unresolved.

Its as if the church has never gotten over puberty- lots of bad information and rumor shaping the actions and lives of people inside and outside the church in ways that are unhealthy and non-life giving. Remember behind the barn, whispering late at night, stories of "doing it" furtive feels and side long glances. Remember how it felt when your longings were not mentioned at all and you somehow knew not to speak them. Remember when you did speak them, just once. Remember some of the outrageous stories you took in as truth. the MOST outrageous story for me was that the creation of MY life was through sexual intercourse of my PARENTS- AND THAT ADULTS ENJOYED DOING IT. My immediate and loudly spoken response to my sister who was "telling" was WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO DO THAT? I was about 7 years old. And finally, why are homosexuals and transgendered people the BIGGEST baddest sinners? Who rates sins and how come? Who said the expression of sexual love by two people for each other is bad when the two are the same gender? The truth is the Christian church said it, but the Bible has never said it. Primary examples of love and covenant for love alone in the Bible include Jonathan and David, Naomi and Ruth.

The Christian church is a human institution and therefore subject to all influences of life on earth--that is to say, for humans, mostly which humans are in power. For

a LONG time now men have been in power-one of the reasons God sent God's son, ^{instead of Gods} not daughter, was that humans wouldn't have noticed a daughter back then. With some in power there are always others who want to be in power, and if we are honest that is a temptation for each one of us. People in power pick out what they want to include, to exclude, what they want recorded and how and by who. Being in power has perks here on Earth. Generally, the pay is better along with housing and food, and in today's world very powerful people don't have to worry about health benefits.

James Nelson in his insightful book Embodiment (A book I got exactly one of my over four hundred seminary colleagues to read), gives a detailed history of how the Roman Catholic church invested very early in the sacredness of procreation and the nastiness of sex so that the BIG sins were anything to do with not procreating (masturbating and homosexuality) while the lesser smaller sins were incest and rape. The argument being that incest and rape at least leads to the possibility of procreation. (Lest the Protestants in the crowd feel smug about not being named in the original faulty logic, Protestants certainly bought into this faulty logic- this was not an area of dispute when the Protestants broke away from the Catholics centuries later) . This unhappy decision around the primacy of procreation at any cost to relationship and mutuality (love) became doctrine for Catholics and Protestants alike, and doctrine for many people is what shapes their interpretation of the Bible.

Doctrine is powerful because it determines the interpretation of Scripture. So when powerful people say the Bible means a certain thing, people believe it. It is easier than figuring it out for yourself and besides "everybody knows."

Well, I don't know. After three years in seminary the one thing I have learned is I REALLY don't know. I don't know Greek and I don't know Hebrew, so anything I read in the text is someone else's INTERPRETATION of the original. Worse yet, most likely Jesus said everything in Aramaic, a language which is as good as dead now. So I'm stuck. Stuck with my life experience and my willingness to spend time with the Bible. To read it carefully through my own experience. Look up what I don't know, continue to study and to pray unceasingly. I do know that everyone else is in the same position. Some know a lot more about Hebrew and Greek and the historical Jesus and the Gospel. I can learn by listening to them. But only I know ^{1, 2} what my experience in relationship to the Gospel. And I know that my sexuality is a gift and sharing it is a gift and that any doctrine that blames me for a God given gift is incorrect. The Bible tells me so.

What Jesus did and said was important enough so that people years after his death, collected the stories and wrote them down. Jesus' life alone was worth remembering, because Jesus was not preoccupied with sex and sexuality. Mark the Gospel writer knew this. Mark challenges us in our

faith by ending the original text with a promised resurrection and no appearance of Christ. The women flee the tomb "awed and terrified" and silent. Mark was not primarily concerned with the resurrection of Jesus, Mark was concerned about the LIFE of Jesus and what that taught us. Mark was concerned that we have the faith in Jesus to be healed, and that we have the willingness as Christs family to not reject his prophetic message- a message transformed by his radical belief in love into a vision of wholeness. Jesus was occupied with living and truth and wholeness and love. Jesus was occupied with family values. By contemporary standards, Jesus' life was low on the traditional family values scale. He was conceived out of wedlock. He was a man who never married or had children, a man who denied his mother at the temple and hung around with a group of other men. Jesus was a man who insisted on mutuality and understood that healing was a mutual experience. The power to heal ignited only through the faith of those to be healed-without that faith, healing could not occur. And yet Jesus did not screen those who came to him for healing. There were no questionnaires to fill out, no one had to say what their sexual orientation was, confess their "sins" or do anything at all except have faith. Was it harder to have faith in the prophet in his own home town? Possibly.

1 Nazareth this was the place of his birth. People remembered him at a different time. Their ideas about Jesus were shaped by different experiences. Jesus as a child, perhaps crying and

powerless when he bumped a knee. Jesus just beginning religious training, Jesus asking questions of his mother, why does the sun come up, why do we have to go to the market today? It is hard to have faith in something or someone that has changed into something so unlike yourself and your memories. It was hard to have faith in Jesus the prophet when people had known Jesus the person. Likewise it is hard for people outside our sexual minority community to have faith in those perceived so different ^{from} than themselves. It is hard for parents who have prided themselves on understanding and knowing their children to learn that the essential nature of those children is something the parents have been taught to reject. And so many do not honor the prophets in their own homes. Many don't because they are unable to. Being prophetic while alive and in the world is hard work. It is so much easier for us today to have faith in a long ago miracle working Jesus. We know what happened to Jesus and we don't know the details of his life. We don't know what he looked like, so he can look any way that heals us. We don't know what his sexual preference was so it can be for each of us what is healing to us. The only thing we do know in fact is his gender and that one concrete fact has caused enough pain in the church family to last until the second coming.

We can choose to have faith in the construct of the church. We can have faith in interpretations, doctrine and theology. We can have faith in all these things, but this

faith will not heal the brokenness of the church. Devoid of our own life experiences, faith in a construct, a doctrine and an interpretation falsely define who we are as individuals and become a barrier to the faith in God that ignites the power of the Holy Spirit to heal. We as sexual minorities have the power to ignite the Holy Spirit for all the church when we continue to live in the knowledge of ourselves as healthy and whole--as God's intention. This prophetic living will not be heard by much of our Christian family, but we much continue to come into the house so that those who can hear, will help transform the house into a home.

What does the failure of the power of Jesus at home tell us about the house of Jesus that the church has created? A house filled with power over, exclusion and definitions of family values and morality that in no way reflect the Gospel of Christ as practiced and taught by ^{Jesus} him. A house that has disempowered Christ through limited vision of ^{Jesus} his prophetic voice.

It tells us as people marginalized by the wrong thinking of the church tradition that we must witness to the truth of the Gospel revealed to us through our struggle to be whole and healthy in a sex phobic, blaming, unhealthy world. We are the prophets, and we have a responsibility to listen to Jesus, affirm ourselves and proclaim to the world that defining humanity without love is sin. Our foundational faith built on our experience of Christ's love

ignites the Holy spirit and affirms our creation as sexual minority so that we can spread the good news of the Gospel. Healthy sexuality reflects affirmation of God's creation as good and proclaims the prophetic vision of Jesus—a vision of inclusion of all people. We have a responsibility to include and we have a responsibility to offer ourselves to be included. This is an issue of sin and salvation and we are chosen by Baptism to participate in the confirmation of our family values.

continue speak prophetically out of our experience so that all Christ's family can be healed, into wholeness, reflect the true

We must continue to speak prophetically with our lives so that our family can be healed.

The family values of Jesus can turn our house into a home for all people.

November 27, 1995



Dear Excel Graduate:

I pray for many blessings your way during this Season as we celebrate the birth of our Christ!

We are so excited at Excel International about all the new things happening within Excel and as a result of Excel: the growth and improvement of Excel weekends, Excel in Faithfulness, the debut of the HOPE Weekend for people with catastrophic illness scheduled for April, 1995! And, Excel International received the Founder's Award at General Conference in Atlanta this past July! We adopted a new logo (above) and celebrated 20 years of Excel International service to UFMCC this year!

We currently have plans or requests to put on Excel weekends in several new areas in the United States, Canada, South Africa, Dominican Republic, Philippines, New Zealand and Australia! What a joy to share Christ in so many places.

We are asking for the second year in a row that you consider making a donation that will be used **ONLY** to present Excel in World Church Extension areas.

We at Excel International pledge that 100% of donations that are given for this purpose will go to Excel weekends outside of the United States. We will not even pay for administrative costs, such as sending you this letter, with monies donated for this purpose!

If you feel a leading of the Spirit to give \$10, 20, 100 or even \$1,000 to support this effort, please make checks or money orders payable to "Excel International" and mail to me at your earliest convenience. **Let's take the love, joy, commitment, and peace that we found through our Excel experiences (and even the Prayer, Study and Action, Amen!) to our brothers and sisters in World Church Extension Areas.**

Our blessings to **YOU** during the Christmas Season and throughout the New Year!

Lovingly and joyfully, In Christ,

Keith L. Apple
Executive Director
P. O. Box 2370

Guerneville, CA 95446-2370, USA



September 21, 1995

Dear Marge,

As I'm sure all the folks have already told you, it was another "WOW" weekend at Camp McDowell. We certainly missed you, but understand why you couldn't make it. We hope and pray that things smooth out and that the purchase of the building proves to be a blessing for Covenant.

Our Excel International Guidelines expect us to write a "report" to pastors of all participants in each EXCEL weekend. Obviously, **you** know what to expect, so this is more than a bit redundant in your case, but nonetheless to fill you in, in case nobody else has the list at their finger tips, the Alabama participants this time included:

Wes Fortner
Shannon Brier
Dottie Cook
Tish Smith
Stevie Hoven
Connie Carrol
Phillip Evatt
Tammie Naquit

Steve Parker
Luwanna Rhodes
Vanessa Kendrick
Melissa Dutton
Lee Rahe
Alex Casareno
Mary Robbins
Tammy Webb

I'm assuming **most** of them are "yours", although some from outlying parts may not be regular attendees of your congregation. The team will be getting a comprehensive address list in the very near future, as soon as Ray has a chance to collate, correct and copy it, so you will have that to give you more information on these participants. Also, as you probably know, Sharai Hankins came to this weekend. Although she resides in Atlanta now, I know she's very close to all your hearts in Birmingham.

We aren't planning our team post mortem on this weekend until, probably, during District Conference in Asheville, since there didn't seem to be any appropriate time to try to get everyone together before that. So, since you'll probably be there, we hope you will be able to join us for our wrap up and future planning even though you weren't able to be at Camp McDowell with us.

Anyway, officially as Team Facilitator, I want to thank you again for your wonderful support of Excel, and as a "spiritual daughter", to thank you for your prayers and support of me personally and to express my hope that there will be a long continuation of our chance to share together in the "work of the vineyard".

With great love in Christ,

Indie

